

2022
Wednesday
DECEMBER 21

75¢

The Hancock News



Merry Christmas



OPINIONS

Calendar
of Events
DECEMBER

Editorial

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to you

You’re holding in your hands our biggest and most festive newspaper issue of the year. We think you’ll like it. Our usual front page has been replaced with a seasonal greeting – our annual Christmas card to readers & advertisers. You will find the traditional front page with headlines on the back page of this issue.

Many of the extra pages inside are filled with the thoughts of local children whose classrooms were invited to write for us this week. Their letters are earnest, funny and poignant – a little glimpse into what Christmas and wintertime means for today’s young people. You, our readers, will no doubt be inspired to look back into your own Christmas memories and wishes, and revel in the good ones.

As a reminder, *The Hancock News* won’t pub-

lish a newspaper next week. It’s a longstanding tradition of the family-owned paper to give employees a break to enjoy the holiday and time with their own families. We’ll kick off 2023 with the January 4 issue on a regular deadline schedule.

We wish you a warm holiday season filled with good health, bright spirits and the people you treasure. A little snow might even add some sparkle this year.

We appreciate your readership now more than ever. With lots of choices to get your community information, we are glad you choose to pick up our newspaper each week. Our staff looks forward to bringing you solid reporting and interesting content in 2023 – our 109th year in print!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Thursday, December 22
– Hancock News closed

Friday, December 23
– Hancock News closed

Monday, December 26
– Hancock Lioness Lions Club meeting, Hancock American Legion, 5:30 p.m.
– Hancock News closed

Tuesday, December 27
– Hancock Rotary Club meeting, Martha’s House, 47 W. Main Street, 12:30 p.m.
– Hancock News closed

Wednesday, December 28
– Hancock News closed
No paper

Thursday, December 29
– Hancock News closed

Friday, December 30
– Hancock News closed

Monday, January 2
– Hancock News OPEN

Is Your Group or Organization Back To Having A Regular Meeting Schedule?
To Be Included on the Calendar, Call 301-678-6255 or email news@hancocknews.us

Letters To The Editor over 400 words will not be published.

History Matters

a feature courtesy of
The Grateful American Book Prize
by John Grimaldi & David Bruce Smith

December 16 to December 31



A powerful potpourri of European countries—Spain, Netherlands, and France—boosted America’s resolve to free itself of Great Britain during the Revolutionary War. The French supplied arms, ammunition, troops, and maritime reinforcement. And, while victory was not declared until 1783, they recognized America’s independence on December 17, 1777, and divulged the alliance two months later.

According to History.com, “Franklin had quickly mustered French support upon his arrival in December 1776. France’s humiliating loss of North America to the British in the Seven Years’ War made the French eager to see an American victory. However, the French king was reluctant to back the rebels openly. Instead, in May 1776, Louis XVI sent unofficial aid to the Continental forces and the playwright Pierre-Augustin Caron de Beaumarchais helped Franklin organize private assistance for the American cause.”

For more information, the Grateful American Book Prize recommends *America’s First Ally: France in the Revolutionary War* by Norman Desmarais.



On December 21, 1891, Coach James Naismith invented basketball in Springfield, MA—the only major sport conceived in America. The inspiration came to him—during the winter—at the International Young Men’s Christian Association Training School—when the students were restless and needed an indoor activity.

In 1939 Naismith was interviewed on New York’s WOR-AM radio and explained that he “called the boys to the gym, divided them up into teams of nine and gave them a little soccer ball.

I showed them two peach baskets I’d nailed up at each end of the gym, and I told them the idea was to throw the ball into the opposing team’s peach basket. I blew the whistle, and the first game of basketball began ... The invention of basketball was not an accident. It was developed to meet a need.”

Basketball is America’s second favorite sport—after football. Thirty-six percent of the population are fans of the National Basketball Association [NBA].

The Grateful American Book Prize recommends *Becoming Kareem: Growing Up On and Off the Court* by Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and Raymond Obstfeld.

Early on, Thomas Edison’s successes would have seemed unlikely. He wrestled with attention deficit disorder; scarlet fever; and a sequence of hearing infections that stripped away much of his hearing. Even so, he once said, “Genius is 1 percent inspiration and 99 perspiration.”

He dreamed up the motion picture camera; improved Samuel Morse’s telegraph, enhanced Alexander Graham Bell’s telephone, and—according to History.com—re-worked the first light bulb “to be long-lasting enough to be practical for widespread use...the first incandescent lamp had been produced 40 years earlier, [but] no inventor had been able to come up with a practical design until Edison embraced the challenge in the late 1870s. After countless tests, he developed a high-resistance carbon-thread filament that burned steadily for hours and an electric generator sophisticated enough to power a large lighting system.”

On New Year’s Eve, 1879, the re-worked version was displayed in Menlo Park, NJ; more than 3,000 persons showed for the demonstration.

The Grateful American Book Prize recommends *Thomas Edison: The Inspirational Life Story of Thomas Edison* by Helen Boone.



ZED by Duane M. Abel



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Mountain Musings

by Kate Evans

Christmas music magic

It never fails each year that listening to Christmas songs from the past and present guides me to a place of treasured holiday memories and a renewed love for the season.

We all know the feeling of dread that can accompany Christmas and New Year’s -- decorations to hang, the Christmas tree to decorate, cookies to bake, food to make, gifts to wrap, Christmas cards to write, social events to attend and phone calls to family and friends to keep in touch. Somehow we rise to the occasion and get it all done.

But it all goes much faster and much easier with Christmas music in the background calming you and making you remember the joys of a lifetime that are all connected to Christmas-time.

I still recall our class singing “The Carol of the Bells” in four to six-part harmony in grade school with our seventh grade music teacher Sr. Jane Mary. I was so blessed to have had such an incredible teacher show us how to sing in harmony and encourage a deep love of music.

I’ve always loved to sing harmony any chance I could. The beauty of voices entwining in different parts—alto, soprano, tenor, bass and baritone—was such a joy to hear and to create with others.

I remember myself and another lady musician jumping up on stage at an open mic night in Pittsburgh once where a guy was singing Crosby, Stills and Nash’s “Helplessly Hoping” so we could add the harmonies. We all high-fived each other when the song was over because we got the three-part harmonies perfect and we’d never sung together before. What a treat.

As I listened to and watched so many artists performing Christmas songs to prepare my Christmas song feature article this year, I realized that music and harmony holds the key to healing so much of what is wrong today.

As I watched Pentatonix perform “Hallelujah” and their other Christmas tunes, I was struck by how each of the five singers are distinct individuals with different styles of singing, but they blended their parts and voices so exceptionally, even creating percussion rhythms with their voices and bodies.

If five very different people could create such beauty by singing and a children’s choir can raise their voices in exquisite harmony to sing “Carol of the Bells” or “The Christmas Canon,” why can’t the rest of mankind lay down their differences, anger and hate and make a beautiful noise with music together instead?

A bluegrass group with its tight harmonies and finely-tuned mandolin, banjo, fiddle and guitar, a rock band with its lead and rhythm guitars, vocalists, keyboards, bass and drums, folk singers with acoustic guitars and a piano or a choir can all be considered role models for the world.

Each musician and singer tunes into what the others in the band or ensemble are doing, makes musical adjustments and blends perfectly with the other voices and instruments, creating a work of art and beauty.

May the sounds and harmonies of Christmas music and all music heal and comfort us and guide us to living in peace, harmony and love upon this earth.

Checking his list



An antique Santa doll has checked his list over many decades.

The Hancock News

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National Newspaper Association



Hancock Police Report 301-678-5633



Hancock Police reported the following arrests and incidents from the week of December 5-18:

December 5

Check well-being, 200 block West Main Street.

Warrant served on Kiersten Yeakle, 25, of Hancock.

Accident, property damage, 200 block West Main Street.

December 6

Accident, property damage, 200 block Creek Road.

December 7

Assisted, disabled vehicle, Big Pool Exxon.

Alarm, first block Cover Street.

December 8

Check well being, first block East Main Street.

Fraud, 200 block East Main Street. Passing counterfeit money.

Warrant serviced, 100 block West High Street. Warrant served on juvenile at location.

December 9

Disabled vehicle, Fulton/Main Street.

Summons attempt, 100 block East Main Street.

Vehicle theft, 200 block East Main Street. Report to follow.

Suspicious vehicle, 100 block West Main Street.

Suspicious vehicle, first block South Street.

Suspicious vehicle, 200 block Pennsylvania Avenue.

Traffic enforcement, Hancock area. One stop.

December 10

Assisted EMS, 200 block East Main Street.

Check well being, 100 block Limestone Road.

Service to advise, 200 block Pennsylvania Avenue.

December 11

Traffic enforcement, Hancock area. Three stops.

Suspicious vehicle, first block East High Street.

Service to advise, 600 block Quaker Creek Drive.

December 12

911 hang-up, 200 block Terrace Street.

Alarm first, block South Street.

December 13

Traffic enforcement, Hancock area. Two stops.

Service to advise, 100 block Washington Street.

911 hang-up, 200 block Quaker Creek Drive.

December 15

Disabled vehicle, 200 block West Main Street.

Traffic enforcement, Hancock area. One stop.

Assisted EMS, death, 200 block Old Rt. 40.

December 16

Traffic enforcement, Hancock area. Five stops.

December 17

Suspicious vehicle, Hancock boat ramp area.

Traffic enforcement, Hancock area. Two stops.

December 18

Traffic enforcement, Hancock area. One stop.

Maryland reports job gains, drop in unemployment in November

The U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) released state jobs and unemployment data for November last week.

According to the preliminary survey data, Maryland's total jobs increased by 1,400 and the unemployment rate

decreased to 4.3% in November.

The Leisure and Hospitality sector experienced the most growth, with an increase of 2,200 jobs.

Other sectors adding jobs included Financial Activities (1,800); Mining, Logging,

and Construction (700); and Information (200).

Sectors that experienced a decline include Professional and Business Services (2,300); Manufacturing (900); Education and Health Services (800); Other Services (500); and Trade, Trans-

portation, and Utilities (400).

For more immediate access to this month's jobs data, please visit the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) website. Go to the Maryland Department of Labor's website to view the current employment situation.

Edwards Fund

(from "front" page)

"This fund will go a long way to help these counties move forward positively by creating jobs and increasing the tax base, which will be great for the region. Hopefully, this will work the way many of us think it will, so we can make this a permanent program just like other parts of the state have already done."

"Tri-County Council is honored to administer the George C. Edwards Fund," said Leanne Mazer, Executive Director of the Tri-County Council for Western Maryland. "Infrastructure and business development are cornerstones of economic growth, and we see this as a very unique opportunity to fund transformational projects to advance the regional economy and establish evidence of our need for this type of funding program."

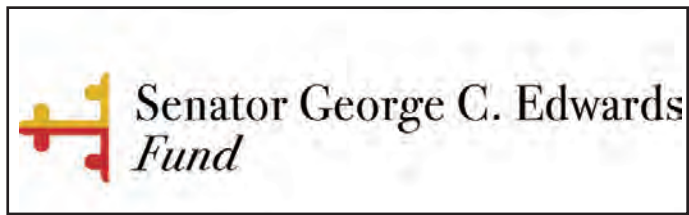
"It is an honor to continue Senator Edwards' legacy of working hard to bring prosperity to Western Maryland," said Andrew Sargent, regional representative with the Maryland Department of Commerce and board chair. "Using these considerable state resources, the Western Maryland Economic Future Investment Board will endeavor to buoy existing businesses and attract new ones to the region. We will measure success by the number of new positions created, the amount

of private investment leveraged, and the increased tax base."

Applications will be accepted in two project categories: capital infrastructure and business development. Capital infrastructure projects include broadband connectivity, road access improvements, housing initiatives, etc. Business development projects must lead to the direct creation or retention of new jobs that pay at least 120 percent of state minimum wages. Applications will be accepted and reviewed quarterly. All projects are encouraged to have matching funding identified and should have the support of their respective county economic development departments.

The Western Maryland Economic Future Investment Board includes representatives from the local Chambers of Commerce, economic development departments, and County Commissioners of Maryland's three westernmost counties. The board is rounded out by a designee of the Maryland Municipal League and the Maryland Department of Commerce, who chairs the board.

Members of the board are: Garrett County Chamber of Commerce Will Wroblewski, George C. Edwards of the Garrett County Economic Development Corporation, Garrett County Commissioner Paul Edwards, Alle-



gany County Chamber of Commerce President Juli McCoy, Allegany County Economic Development Director Jeff Barclay, Allegany County Commissioner David Caporale,

Washington County Chamber of Commerce President Paul Frey, Washington County Economic Development Director

Jonathan Horowitz, Washington County Commissioner Jeff Cline, Cumberland Mayor Ray Morris and Maryland Department of Commerce representative Andrew Sargent, Sr.

Questions can be directed to info@senatedwardsfund.org.

Join Us For Christmas Eve in the Country!

WORSHIP SERVICES

Saturday, December 24 • 5 p.m.
Catalpa United Methodist Church
12314 Willow Road • Hancock

Saturday, December 24 • 7 p.m.
Piney Plains United Methodist Church
12708 Faith Circle NE • Little Orleans

Ice storm

(from "front" page)

In a text message, Town Manager Mike Faith told *The Hancock News* the December town meeting would not be rescheduled this month as there would be no way to cram the meeting in between now and the new year.

He also said they'd have to re-advertise the public hearing related to the town seeking grants from the Maryland Community Development Block Grant program.

Road precautions taken

State road crews were out on Wednesday afternoon preparing the roads in Hancock with a brine mixture.

In Pennsylvania, PennDot reduced speed limits on Interstate 70 in Fulton County with a Tier 1 restriction from

the Pennsylvania Turnpike (Breezewood) to the Maryland state line at 1 a.m. Thursday morning.

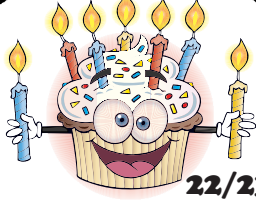
A Tier 1 restriction focuses on tractor-trailers, passenger vehicles towing trailers, recreational vehicles or motorhomes, school buses, commercial buses and motor coaches, and motorcycles not being permitted on affected highways.

No major road incidents or widespread power outages were reported as a result of the ice storm. Falling branches due to the weight of the ice on limbs did pose a problem in the area.

Christmas Eve services

Worship services will be held at Catalpa United Methodist Church, 12314 Willow Road, Hancock on Saturday, December 24, 5 p.m. and at Piney Plains United Methodist Church, 12708 Faith Circle NE, Little Orleans on Saturday, December 24, 7 p.m.

Everyone welcome.




22/23


Who's Havin' a Birthday?

Saturday, December 24
Herbie Swain

Sunday, January 1, 2023
Geoff Fox



THERE WILL BE NO PAPER ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28



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HANCOCK VETERANS MEMORIAL LIBRARY
301-678-5300

Tuesday	11:30-7:00
Wednesday	11:30-7:00
Thursday	3:00-7:00
Friday	11:30-6:00
Saturday	10:15-2:00

New Year's Eve

PORK & SAUERKRAUT DINNER

Drive Thru Style

Saturday, December 31 • 1-4 p.m.

Meal Includes: Pork, Sauerkraut, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans and Dessert

ORCHARD RIDGE FIRST CHURCH OF GOD

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New Year's Eve

DANCE

Saturday, December 31
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December 26, 1926

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23
(CHRISTMAS EVE-EVE)
5 P.M.
It's A Wonderful Life
and
CHRISTMAS COOKIE SWAP

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24
2 P.M. - Elf

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25
1 P.M. - Polar Express



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Hancock Council of Churches Welcomes You To Worship With Them

St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, five miles west of Hancock on Resley Road, 301-678-7180 - Adult Bible and Sunday school classes for all ages, 8:45 a.m., worship service 10 a.m. Pastor W. Kenneth Stottlemeyer.

Long Hollow Church, 12722 Long Hollow Road - Sunday school 9:30 a.m., morning worship 10:30 a.m.

Hancock Assembly of God, 431 North Pennsylvania Avenue, 301-678-5313 - Sunday school 10 a.m., worship service and kid’s church 11 a.m. Evening service 7 p.m. Wednesday activities 7 p.m. Women’s ministries first Tuesday of each month. Pastor David Luffy.

Stone Bridge Church of the Brethren, 14904 Orchard Ridge Road, Hancock, 301-582-4135 - Sunday school 9:30 a.m., worship 10:35 a.m. Rev. Harry E. Strite.

Victory Chapel, 116 W. Main Street - Sunday school 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m. Sunday evening 7 p.m. Rev. Bob Ardinger.

Saint Thomas’ Episcopal Church, Church and High Streets, Hancock, 301-678-6569 - Sundays 7:30 a.m. Holy Communion 10 a.m. Parish Family Communion 11:15 a.m. Sunday school and adult education 5 p.m. youth fellowship. Mondays and Tuesdays: 7:30 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous in lower parish hall. Rev. Magaret S. Brack, Priest-in-charge.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 200 Douglas Street, Hancock - Sacrament meeting 10 a.m. Sunday school 11 a.m. Bishop Christopher Hartman.

Buck Valley Zion Lutheran Church - Monthly church services will be held at 7 p.m. on the third Sunday of each month. Mother Marguerite Brack.

St. Peter’s Catholic Church, 16 E. High Street, Hancock, 301-678-6339 - Weekend Mass schedule: Sunday morning: 7:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. Weekday Mass schedule: Monday, 7 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday-Saturday, 7:30 a.m. Mission Church-St. Patrick’s, Little Orleans: Saturday Vigil Mass at 5 p.m. Rev. John J. Lombardi.

Corner Independent Church, Corner Road, Big Cove Tannery, Worship, 11 a.m. Pastor Richard Bernhard.

Sideling Hill Charge: Catalpa U.M. Church, Rt. 144 west of Hancock about two miles, turn left on Willow Road. Go about five miles, bear right at fork. Church about one mile on right. Sunday service 8:30 a.m.

Piney Plains U.M. Church, Exit 72 off I-68, left off exit, then right at stop sign, right on Mann Road, cross back over I-68 and then left on Faith Circle, follow to end, Little Orleans - Sunday school 10 a.m., service 11 a.m. Pastor Barbara Suffecool.

Hancock United Methodist Church, 170 West Main Street, Hancock, 301-678-6440 - Sunday School all ages 8:30 a.m. Worship service 9:30 a.m. Pastor Becki Wessinger.

Hancock Grace Church of the Nazarene, 304-258-4412 - Sunday school 11 a.m., Sunday morning worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday evening service 6 p.m., Wednesday prayer meeting 7 p.m. Pastor Rodney Truax 304-676-3306.

Non-Denominational Service, Seavolt Road, Hancock, 304-274-2353 - Campground ministry at Happy Hills Campground every Sunday 10 a.m. Pastor Tim Staubs.

Hancock (USA) Presbyterian Church, 17 East Main Street, 301-678-5510 - Sunday worship 11 a.m. Senior soup and sandwich first Saturday of each month from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in Church Social Room. Pastor Terry Martin-Minnich.

Grace Christian Fellowship, 130 Pennsylvania Avenue, Hancock, 301-678-6036 - Sunday services: Sunday school 10 a.m., worship 11 a.m. Wednesday 7 p.m. Bible study and prayer meeting. Rev. Edward Guyer.

Hancock Church of God, 7528 Millstone Road - Sunday school 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m. Sunday evening services 6 p.m. Wednesday evening services 7 p.m. Pastor James Touchton.

Tri-State Community Church, 326 E. Main St., Hancock, across from CNB Bank, 301-302-6412 - 6 p.m., Saturday, Adult truth, teen thrust sixth grade and up. Children blast fifth and under. Pastor Alan Myers.

Orchard Ridge First Church of God, 13642 Orchard Ridge Road, 301-678-7267 - Sunday morning worship 9 a.m. Sunday school 10 a.m. Sunday evening worship 6 p.m. Kids club and youth group 6 p.m. Rev. Jeffrey Hawbaker.

IST Evangelical Methodist Church, 11510 Price Road, Little Orleans, 240-609-6770 - Sunday school 10 a.m. Worship service 11 a.m. Wednesday evening Bible study 7 p.m. Darhl Trail, Jr.

Bethel Community Church, Bethel Church Road off Rt. 522, Warfordsburg, Pa., 301-991-7141 - Sunday school 9:30 a.m., worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday night fellowship and music at 7 p.m. Rev. Joe Martin.

Berkeley Baptist Church, Route 522 and 13, 304-258-4101 - Youth Wednesday 6:30-8 p.m., Sunday school 9:30 a.m., worship service and children’s church 10:45 a.m. Food pantry distribution site call for more infor. Wednesday Bible study 7 p.m. Pastor Joey N. Giles, Jr.

St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, 180 South Washington Street, Berkeley Springs, 304-258-2440 - Sunday service 9 a.m.

Damascus Christian Church, Big Cove Tannery, Pa. - Worship every Sunday 11 a.m. Pastor Travis Mellott. Sunday services online.

Needmore Bible Church, 6939 Great Cove Road, Needmore, Pa., 717-573-2212 - Sunday school and life groups 9 a.m. Sunday worship 10 a.m. Monday 8:45 a.m. ladies Bible study. Wednesday evening 6:30 p.m. Awana for children. Pastor Doug Poffenberger.

Love Assembly of God, 4 miles south of Berkeley Springs on Rt. 522 - Sunday praise & worship 10 a.m., children’s church and youth services 11 a.m., Tuesday family night and kid’s club 7 p.m. Pastor Dave Kidwell.

Gospel Light Tabernacle, 21 Gospel Lane on Williams Street, Berkeley Springs - Sunday school and worship/children’s church 10 a.m., Sunday evening service 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Bible study 7 p.m. Pastor Shane Boyer.

Church of the Lord Jesus Christ, 14464 Buck Valley Rd., Warfordsburg, Pa., 301-678-5340 - Prayer service, Wednesday 7:30 p.m., Sunday service 10 a.m. Pastor Warren Ensor and Deacon Emmanuel Ensor.

Warm Springs Baptist Church, 3683 Pious Ridge Road, Berkeley Springs, 304-258-1551. - Sunday SVCS 10-11 a.m. Sunday SVC 6 p.m. Wednesday Bible study 7 p.m. Pastor Robert Burton.

St. Patrick’s Catholic Church 12517 St. Patrick Road, SE, Little Orleans, 301-678-6339 - Saturday Vigil Mass 5 p.m. Rev. John Lombardi.

Needmore Full Gospel, six miles north of Hancock on Rt. 655, 717-294-3100 - Regular services: Sunday school 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m. Evangelistic service 6 p.m. Wednesday evening service at 7 p.m. Rev. John Lewis.

Cedar Grove Christian Church, Rt. 522 at 643 near Dott, Pa. - Sunday school 9:30 a.m. and worship service 10:30 a.m. Timothy B. Close.

Chapel of Praise - 14457 Buck Valley Road, Warfordsburg, Pa., 717-294-3184 - Worship services: Sunday morning 10 a.m. Wednesday evening service at 7 p.m. Pastors Jack and Lola Hiles.

Whips Cove Church, Rt. 643, three miles east of Town Hill, Exit Rt. 156, 717-294-3229 - Sunday school at 10 a.m. and worship service at 11 a.m.

Faith Assembly of God Church, Amaranth, Pa. - Sunday school 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m. Sunday CA service 6:30 p.m. Sunday evening service 7 p.m. Wednesday evening service 7:30 p.m. Pastor Delmas F. Bard.

Buck Valley Christian Church, 717-294-3940 - Sunday school 9:30 a.m. Worship service 10:20 a.m. Primary church and junior church are held 10:30 a.m. Pastor Bill Croteau, Jr.

New Testament Church, Buck Valley, Pa., Warfordsburg exit on 484 west, six miles on right - Sunday school 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m., prayer meeting Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Pastor R. Bobby Layman.

Calvary Bible Church, 2065 Valley Road, Berkeley Springs, just south of Dairy Queen on top of hill, 304-258-1099 or 304-579-9389 - Sunday school 9:45 a.m. Sunday worship 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Wednesday prayer meeting and Bible study 7 p.m. Pastor B.J. Worley.

Needmore Seventh-day Adventist Church, corner Rt. 522 and 655, Needmore, Pa., 717-573-4581 or 814-392-3070 - Sabbath School Saturday, 9:30 a.m. Sabbath worship service Saturday 11 a.m. Pastor Preston Monterrey.

Oasis Community Church, 1121 Maryland Avenue, Hagerstown, located in the South End shopping center across from South High, 301-745-6183 - Sunday worship 6:30 p.m. Rev. Bill Lynn.

Unity of Berkeley Springs, New Earth Granary, 143 N. Mercer St., Berkeley Springs, 304-268-4222 or 304-258-2954. Celebration service, 10 a.m. Rev. Anne Murphy-Oswald.

Mountain Top Church, one mile east of Rocky Gap State Park on Rt. 144, Flintstone, 301-777-0923 - Sunday services: Sunday school at 10 a.m., morning worship 10:45 a.m., evening service 7 p.m. Wednesday Bible study and prayer 7:30 a.m.

Bethel Independent Church, Sleepy Creek - Sunday school 10 a.m. Sunday worship 7 p.m. Wednesday evening prayer and Bible study 7:30 p.m.

LifeHouse Church Bethel, 515 E. Wilson Blvd., Hagerstown, 301-739-1167 - Sunday life classes 8:30 a.m., worship gathering 9:30 a.m. and Wednesday family life 7 p.m.

Church of Christ, 290 South Green Street, Berkeley Springs, 304-258-5175 - Sunday Bible study 9:30 a.m., worship 10:15 a.m. Evening service 6 p.m. Wednesday Bible study 7 p.m. for all ages. Evangelist Van Sprague.

Parkhead United Methodist Church, 9512 National Pike, Big Pool, I-70 east at exit 9, Indian Springs, 301-842-3212 - Sunday school 9:30 a.m., morning worship 10:30 a.m. Pastor Len Horst.

Hilltop Christian Fellowship, 12624 Trinity Church Drive, Clear Spring, 301-842-2225, Early Bible class 8:15-9 a.m. Sunday school 9:15-10:15 a.m., worship service 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Bible study 7:15-8:15 p.m. Pastor John Miller.

Warfordsburg Presbyterian Church, 717-294-3028 - Fellowship 9 a.m. Sunday school 9:30 a.m. Worship service 10:30 a.m. Bible basics class for children K through fourth grade. 12941 Buck Valley Rd., Warfordsburg.

Unitarian Universalist, 626 Washington Avenue, Hagerstown, 301-745-6576 - Sunday service 10:45 a.m. youth religious education 10:45 a.m. Minister Valerie Wills.

Pleasant Grove Christian Church, four miles west of Needmore, Pa. - Sunday worship 10 a.m., Sunday evening services 6 p.m. Rev. Denver Pressinger.

Green Ridge Assembly of God, Green Ridge - Sunday services: Sunday school 9:45 a.m., worship service 10:45 a.m., evening service 6 p.m. Wednesday Bible study and prayer 6 p.m. Holy communion first Sunday of each month.

Blairs Valley First Church of God, Clear Spring, 301-842-2663 - Sunday school 10, worship 9 a.m. Bible study Wednesday evening 6:30 p.m. Pastor John Cook.

St. Catherine’s Eastern Orthodox, 433 Liberty Street, Hagerstown, 301-739-5237 - Saturday 6:30 p.m. Vesper service Sunday 10 a.m. Divine Liturgy. Rev. Dennis Buck.

Rehoboth New Life, 8159 Great Cove Road, (U.S. 522), 717-496-7558 - Services Sunday, 10 a.m., 6 p.m. Wednesday, 7 p.m. Bible based, spirit-filled church and discipleship center. Pastor Lowell Bard.

Mt. Olivet Presbyterian Church, Exline Road, Hancock, 301-678-6038 - Church service 9:30 a.m.

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And when he had so said, he showed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the LORD.
John 20:20 (KJV)

HOPE

Most of us have experienced times when all seemed lost, but with Christ in our lives, we can never lose hope. Just when all seemed lost, Christ rose again, giving hope to His disciples and all who believe in Him.



OBITUARIES

Violet Jean Sheeder

Violet Jean Sheeder, age 77, transitioned on December 14, 2022, one day shy of her late daughter, Valarie Jean Sheeder/Runyon's birthday. Violet's family believes that Viri Jr., her late husband and Valarie had a joyous reunion and birthday party on December 15th.

Violet is survived by her son, Viri "Hobie" Sheeder III, son-in-law, Madison Offenhauser; her three grandchildren whom she and Viri raised from young ages; Tiffany Pryor (granddaughter), her husband Corey Pryor and their children, Shyanne and Bryce Pryor (great grandchildren); Olivia Runyon (granddaughter) and Devin Runyon (grandson), his life partner Madison Fix. These are the people who made up her whole world.

Violet was an entrepreneur in her younger years. She managed the teams to clean new custom homes built by her husband in preparation for the new owner(s) to move in.

She was an avid sun-tanner in her younger years and was fondly referred to as "Ultra Violet" when she would use her prized personal tanning bed on the 2nd floor of her farm house.

Violet was an inspiration to all - her elegance, passion and fortitude set the stage for an indelible legacy. She defined how to give genuine love and she cherished loyalty, honesty, respect and love in return.

In addition to her children, Violet is survived by her brother, Melvin Stotler and his wife Janice, several nieces, nephews, cousins and many friends. She was preceded in death by her parents, Elwood Stotler and Hazel Shambaugh/Stotler and 10 brothers and sisters.

Her funeral was held at Grove Funeral Home, 141 West Main St., Hancock, Md., on Monday, December 19 at 11 a.m. The burial service took place immediately following at the Zion Lutheran Church Cemetery in Buck Valley, Pennsylvania. Refreshment and light lunch fare was served at the Warfordsburg Senior Citizen Center at 12:30 p.m.

Blanche Louise Anderson 1934-2022

Blanche Louise Anderson, age 88, of Berkeley Springs, W.Va., died on Monday, December 19, 2022 at her home while under the care of Hospice of the Panhandle.

Born October 5, 1934 in Big Cove Tannery, Pa., she was the daughter of the late Harry Rumble and Marie Pearl Craig Lynch.

She was a member of Mt. Zion United Methodist Church. Blanche was a graduate of Fulton County Public Schools. She was a homemaker to her family all of her life. Mrs. Anderson was a member of Risinger-Stotler VFW Post #4019 Ladies Auxiliary. She enjoyed cooking, baking, sewing, fishing, mushroom hunting and going to church.

Blanche is survived by her daughter, Sherry Dee Moats and her husband, Bill of Berkeley Springs, three sisters, Estalene Cromis and her husband, Bob of Hagerstown, Md., Betty Lynch of Big Cove Tannery and Linda Snow and her husband, George of Hancock, Md., two brothers, Lee Lynch and his wife, Kay of Hancock, and Merrill Lynch and his wife, Mary of Williamsport, Md., one granddaughter Angela Anderson McBee of Hancock, two great-grandsons, and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Charles Glendon "Andy" Anderson, Sr. on February 22, 2020 and one son, Charles Glendon Anderson, Jr., one sister, Dorothy Dugan, and three brothers, Paul Lynch, Henry Lynch and David Lynch.

Services will be conducted at Noon on Wednesday, December 21, 2022 at Helsley-Johnson Funeral Home & Cremation Center, 95 Union Street, Berkeley Springs, W.Va., where the family will receive friends from 10 a.m. until services. Chaplain Lindsay Arnold will officiate. Burial will be in Spohrs Crossroads Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in Blanche's name may be made to Spohrs Crossroads Cemetery Association, 269 Cain Lane, Berkeley Springs, WV 25411.

Online condolences may be expressed at www.helsleyjohnsonfh.com.



Mary Susan Snidemiller 1948-2022

Mary Susan "Susie" Snidemiller, age 74, of Berkeley Springs, W.Va., died on Monday, December 12, 2022 at Willow Tree Health Center in Charles Town, W.Va.

Born August 28, 1948 in Berkeley Springs, WV, she was the daughter of the late John Brewer and Grace Belle Stotler Spitzer.

She was a Christian. Susie was a graduate of Berkeley Springs High School. She worked as a computer analyst with the IRS in Kearneysville, W.Va. Susie was active and enjoyed volunteering with the Special Olympics with her daughter. She enjoyed reading, watching television and working on word searches.

Susie is survived by Jo Ann Merchant, who was her caregiver and considered her as a sister.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Steve Leon Snidemiller on February 21, 2014, her daughter, Traci Dawn Snidemiller on March 28, 2020 and two sisters, Barbara Ann Spitzer and Linda Carol Spitzer.

Services and burial will be private.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in Susie's name be made to Special Olympics, 1133 19th Street NW, 12th Floor, Washington, DC 20036-3604.

Online condolences may be expressed at www.helsleyjohnsonfh.com.

Arrangements are being handled by Helsley-Johnson Funeral Home & Cremation Center, 95 Union Street, Berkeley Springs, WV.



IN LOVING MEMORY

Christmas in Heaven

Is just like a dream,
They look down upon
us,
And yet it would seem,
They want to be near
us,
To love and to share.
And though we can't
see them,
They're right here in
their chair.



DONALD UNGER 2022 **VIVIAN UNGER** 2021
So Sadly and Dearly Missed
Greg, Karen, Dylan, Cody

IN MEMORIAM

In Loving Memory of
CHARLES G. ANDERSON SR.

It's almost
Christmas again.
We think about you
each day. We wish
you were here with
us, but we know that
can't be. So we are
sending all of our
love to you.



Merry Christmas in Heaven

We Miss You and Love You,
Blanche,
Sherry and Bill

IN MEMORIAM

In Loving Memory of My Wife
ANNA PECK
for Christmas

Christmas is the most wonderful time of the year and was much more wonderful when you were here with us. We were much more happier when we could see your lovely smile and feel the warmth of your touch and hear you say "I Love You." I miss that so much. I miss watching your face light up when the little ones opened their presents. You had the most wonderful smile on your face. I will always miss you at Christmas and all the time. We had so many wonderful years and Christmas memories that we will never forget. I know you are smiling down on us all. I know you are wishing us a very Merry Christmas.

Merry Christmas To You in Heaven
We Love and Miss You So Very Much
Your Husband, John
Daughters, Punkin & Lisa
& Son, Johnny
& All Their Families
& All Our Grandchildren

Timothy L. Keefer 1977-2022

Timothy Lee Keefer, 45, of Hancock, died Thursday, December 15, 2022.

Family will receive friends from 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, December 21 at the Minnich Funeral Home, 415 E. Wilson Blvd., Hagerstown, Md. Burial will be private and at the convenience of the family.

Arrangements by Minnich Funeral Home, Hagerstown.

ERICA DAWN BURNETT

December 26, 1979 ~ October 10, 2006
Missing You on Your Birthday
Daughter

We'll miss you every
moment
From the breaking of the
dawn,
But celebrate with
grateful thanks
The day that you were
born.

We loved you so
completely
From the moment of your birth,
You brought us joy and pure delight
Throughout your time on earth.
And though we'll never manage
To get over losing you,
We try to make the most of life
As you would want us to.
And now in Heaven's glory
With the angels' sweet refrain,
Sleep peacefully, dear daughter,
Until we meet again.



Merry Christmas and
Happy Birthday To Our Angel Erica
Sadly Missed and Loved By,
Mommy, Daddy & Ashley

In Memory of Our Daughter HEATHER DAWN FLEEGLER

Heather,
We want to wish you a Happy Birthday in Heaven and a Merry Christmas. We love you and miss you so much. We wish you could be here with us, but we know you are happy in Heaven. We think about you all the time. We can't put in words how much we love and miss you. You are grown up now but you will always be our little girl to us. All your friends love and miss you too.

Love - Mom, Dad and Tony

Merry Christmas To My Wife ALICE FAYE FLETCHER TURNER



April 15, 1947
September 16, 2021
I Love You

Obituary policy

Death Notices of residents of Hancock and immediate area will be printed for free in *The Hancock News* as a public service which can include name, age, date of death, residency and services.

Obituaries will be printed for a fee based on the amount of information that is provided by a licensed funeral home. A photo of the deceased can be included.

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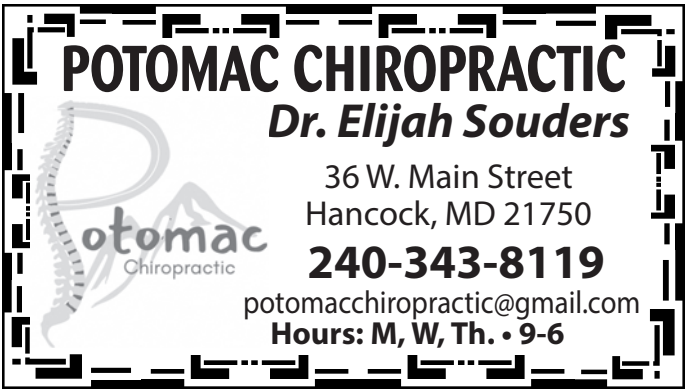


IN MEMORIAM

In Loving Memory of
PENNY JOANN COLE
December 24, 2020

When tomorrow starts
without me
Please try to understand.
That an angel came and
called my name,
And took me by the
hand.
The angel said my place
was ready,
IN HEAVEN far above.
When I walked through Heaven's Gate,
I felt so much at home.
Don't think we're far apart,
Because I'm right there in your heart.

Your Family



The woven history of Hook’s Mill Farm

by Lisa Schauer
Since 1793, Leslie Mills’ three-story farmhouse on Hook’s Mill Farm has stood beside a hook in the Potomac River where it meets the Great Tonooway Creek.

The dam broke in the great flood of 1936, and the mill was lost in the flood of 1985, Mills, 82, explained, pointing to an undated black and white photo depicting each structure.

Originally used as a carding mill, where sheep’s wool is prepared for spinning, Hook’s Mill was later converted into a grist mill for grinding grain into flour. Local farm families would have visited the mill regularly for food and warmth.

Before its demise in ‘85, the mill also served as a small stage for community theater and musical productions, weaving a place in Hancock’s cultural history.

As a board member at Coolfont Re+Creation in Berkeley Springs in the 1970s, Mills recalls a colorful crowd of artists, naturalists and bohemians who danced and performed at the mill from the 1960s through the early ‘80s.

Family lore told that the roughly 130-acre property was a gift to an ancestor from Lord Fairfax, who died in 1781 and was a mentor, employer, and friend to a young George Washington, who surveyed the area at age 16.

Fairfax was landed British gentry, having received an inheritance that included a Virginia land grant along the headwaters of the Potomac River in 1719. He first visited his Virginia lands in 1735, where he enjoyed hunting in the woods that are now part of Maryland and West Virginia.

Attracted to the rustic beauty of the Blue Ridge

Mountains, Fairfax was the only English titled nobleman to permanently reside in the American colonies, according to Washington’s Mount Vernon library.

Mills’ family arrived here from England by way of Cleveland, Ohio. Her great-grandmother was Jesse Bowles-Reynolds, a member of the prominent Bowles family, owners of the Bowles house. She recalled summers spent at the farm with her grandmother Lila Reynolds, dear “Sunny,” who lived in the house and earned her own living as a music instructor and church pianist. Sunny talked of rowing out the second story during the flood of ‘36, remembers Mills.

Mills moved here permanently in 1945 after her grandmother passed away. During the flood of ‘85, Mills also recalls rowing a canoe through the second-floor hallway, past a Napoleonic camp bed still there in the bedroom. She is only dismayed she couldn’t make the turn to get the craft out the window like Sunny did.

Having survived the ordeal, Mills continues as owner and operator of Hook’s Mill Farm, Maryland’s birthplace of American Thoroughbreds known worldwide. She was also active in horse shows and the Maryland region of the American Pony Club before focusing exclusively on breeding thoroughbreds.

A golden mare sired by Indian Charlie, a racehorse who won the Santa Anita Derby in record time in 1998 before going on to finish third in the Kentucky Derby, grazes in the pasture outside.

Next to her stands another 20-something American Thoroughbred mare, this one sired by Tap-it, winner of the Wood Memorial before retir-

ing to stud, breaking earnings records with four Belmont Stakes winners.

“These babies are part of the family,” Mills asserts, explaining why they’re not for sale. She still breeds thoroughbreds worth upwards of \$185,000. Customers have traveled across the mid-Atlantic to Hook’s Mill Farm to purchase thoroughbreds for pleasure, show, racing or pedigree breeding.

She admits to slowing down recently. But in her heyday, Mills recounts boarding a horse onto a private jet piloted by one of her trainers and bound for its new owner, the Shah of Iran.

Still found working in the barn on most days, Mills stays busy, she says with a twinkle in her eye.

“I used to ride and take lessons here when I was young,” prompted an unexpected visitor.

“When you were younger,” Mills corrected. Age is just a number, after all, to a woman who has aged remarkably little over the years.

Stern at times, Mills was known by some as a Miss Haversham type, the aristocratic yet eccentric Dickensian character. Ever gracious and inquisitant, she allowed children to ramble freely through her antique-filled house, sharing what felt like the ambiance of a once-great British dynasty.

Some people mucked stalls and groomed horses at Hook’s Mill back then in exchange for riding lessons with instructors like dressage champion Charlie “Chuck” Keller, and a chance to ride in shows in Middleburg on the renowned Virginia circuit.

Entering Mills’ cluttered kitchen now, one feels as though attending a royal tea party. A bemused young solar energy technician is swept up in the moment, as Mills fills cups of English breakfast tea served with biscotti baked by a friend, dis-



Undated photo of Hook’s Mill Farm, Hancock, Md., courtesy of Leslie Mills.



Leslie Mills, 82, of Hancock with grandson Henry Mills, 10, of Berkeley Springs stand with their American Thoroughbreds at Hook’s Mill Farm in Hancock.

cussing energy independence, enthusing her love of company.

“My family is important,” Mills’ grandson Henry Mills, 10, of Berkeley Springs says proudly, sussing out a reporter. He helps his grandmother round up her four Norwich terriers as they make their way to the pasture out front.

The stables remain largely unchanged from the mid-century when they were filled with the finest horses ever to trod local soil.

“If you wouldn’t drink it, don’t expect them to drink it,” Mills would instruct stable hands on the importance of supplying fresh water to the clean stalls.

“No one in my family lives much past 80, so you do the math. This will be for someone else,” Mills tells the solar technician as she contemplates adding solar panels to the old farmhouse. The barn and guest house are already solar powered. The technician trods off to speak with Mills son, who stops by daily

to check on his mother. She’s holding court in the warmth of her stove-lit kitchen, the rays of the late afternoon sun stretching longer over worn wooden floors.

Driving out gingerly over a flat slatted bridge where the mill once was, with the Great Tonooway gurgling beneath, one feels something near reverence for the colorful woven history of Hancock’s Hooks Mill Farm, promising to return one day soon.



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&
Happy
New
Year



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Murphy retires

(from “front” page)

Before heading back to school, Murphy knew he would be working in Hancock and working for Shives.

At first, Murphy was going to work under Shives for six months and then decide if he would buy the practice and take over.

In April of 1978, Murphy made the decision to take over the practice and it officially became his.

Murphy said his generation set goals and going back to his high school days, he knew he wanted to be a veterinarian.

He went through college knowing what the direction he needed to go down, even knowing what kind of practice he wanted to have.

“Everything was planned out and methodical pretty much and I was able to live that dream pretty much,” he said.

As he started getting older, Murphy wanted to start slowing down his professional practice.

When he came to Hancock at the age of 24, Murphy was doing everything -- even making house calls to farms. After having back issues, Murphy came off the road 21 years into his practice.

This led him to focus on a small animal practice.

“I was blessed, too, with plenty of work,” he said.

Murphy started to step away from things like more involved surgeries and hospitalizations where he’d be up all night changing fluids. He’s reached out to his colleagues to assist in those.

He made the decision to focus on general medicine and internal medicine.

And then in 2020, COVID and everything got crazy, he said.

Murphy was doing parking lot visits and then eventually allowing one person in his office while wearing a mask.

He noted people adapted well to the parking lot visits.

As he approached 70 years of age, Murphy’s kids started asking when he was going to wind down the practice.

Last year, Murphy reached out to the veterinarian school at Virginia Tech and started

exploring options to take over his practice. He had no takers.

After this past year, Murphy realized he was ready to slow everything down.

“This is a wonderful profession but I’ve lived it 45 plus years and every night you go to bed, every morning when you wake up, you’re thinking about a case,” Murphy said.

He said it’s been a constant concern and he didn’t have anyone to share that concern with, as he has been a solo practitioner over the years.

In reaching out to veterinarian schools to find a successor or vet for Hancock to take his place, Murphy came to understand that today’s veterinarians see the profession differently.

Many vets don’t want to own their own practice. Instead, Murphy said a report he has read stated 95% of graduates would rather work under another veterinarian or with others than owning their own practices.

“They love the medicine part, but they didn’t want to be in business,” he said, noting it’s also happening in human medical practices as well.

Murphy still needed to work toward his retirement.

“Still love the people. Still love the animals. I want to be able to not worry about them when I’m off at Canaan Valley with my family once a year at a reunion and I’m thinking about the dog that was vomiting when I left Hancock on Thursday,” Murphy said.

Murphy has been practicing with a basic clinic without the bells and whistles of a large animal hospital.

Labs were sent out, so there won’t be a lot of lab equipment left, and an x-ray machine was donated to a third world country via a Rotary program.

What he does have left is a lot of pharmaceuticals that would go out of date if not used, scales, and cages.

Murphy said if there would be a new vet come to the community, he’d pass those items off to the new person.

“I’m still hoping that we can find someone who would

come in and basically start their own practice,” Murphy said.

In the last three months, Murphy and his staff have been contacting their patients’ families personally and helping them find a new veterinarian.

Murphy has also contacted his colleagues in the area, letting them know about the possible influx of new patients.

Murphy is bound by law to keep records for a certain amount of years and has been copying those records so when his patients go to a new vet, their family can get those records from Murphy.

“The records are being dealt with professionally,” Murphy said.

With his retirement, Murphy is getting used to not having to get up and answer phone calls and see people.

Murphy said there are also small projects around the house he’s put on hold, cleaning up around the “old stuff” from the office before he either gives to another practice or sell, and of course his involvement in his church and around the community.

Murphy is now the president of the Hancock Rotary Club, the president of the Hancock Historical Society, and involved with the Hancock Arts Council.

He also hopes to get back on the rivers and lakes fishing in some of his boats that haven’t seen the water in some time.

“Most important, I have four grandkids that are an hour and a half away in Severt Park and we like to see them every so often on weekends,” Murphy said. “Well now I can go down in the middle of the week and be Granddad if I want to.”

Murphy said if they are able, he and his wife, Debbie, would travel, but nothing “grandiose things” just staying active and getting out as well as helping out in the community.

There had been rumors the Murphy’s were leaving Hancock now that he’s retired, but Murphy said they are not leaving town.

He’s not a native to Hancock, but after 46 years of working and living in the town, he’s put down roots.

He said Hancock has been a wonderful place with good



Dan Murphy holds a bull ring restraint and IV dose of calcium in his hands and an IV needle in his mouth ready for to doctor a cow suffering from milk fever. Murphy said this was probably the oldest picture as it was taken in 1978, around the time he bought the practice from Dr. Shives.

people to make a living and raise his two children.

“Don’t want to run away from it and not remember all the good things that happened here,” he said.

Murphy served on Hancock town council for four years and served 20 as mayor and balanced it with his veterinary practice.

He credits the people under him on both ends -- in the veterinary office and at the town -- helping him.

Murphy’s practice and Town Hall are only three blocks apart, which made the juggle easier.

“I have been called out of town meetings for emergencies of animals,” he said. “Rarely was I ever called away from the animals because of town business.”

There are a lot of memories from his practice over the last 46 years.

So many good memories have been called back this past month since he announced his retirement, Murphy said.

There have been people tease Murphy that he can’t retire because they weren’t consulted, but most have been poignant farewells in the parking lot.

There have also been people letting him know they brought their pets to him when they were kids.

Both of Murphy’s kids traveled with him when he would do farm calls for livestock. Murphy said they’d sit on hay bales and talk to the farmer while he did his veterinary work.

The farmers were “wonderful to work for” because they appreciated what he did for them because it was their livelihood, Murphy said.

He said life and death was a way of living on the farm and the farmers knew if an animal couldn’t make it or was down and needed to be sent to market.

He also noted when it came to the pets and the emotional ties people had to them, he had to find the right kind of compassion to tell them their pet might not make it home.

“The relationships over time of my clientele were what I remember the most,” he said.

There were incidents where a dog had an accident with a severed limb and after Murphy performed surgery on it, two years later you couldn’t tell anything had happened; dogs that were deathly ill in

the hospital with a virus and kept on fluids -- the ones he saved but then the pile of names he couldn’t save.

“The ones we didn’t save are the ones that hurt,” Murphy said, “and having to tell people that.”

Every week, Murphy said, he was seeing new puppies and kittens. And every week, he was euthanizing old dogs and cats or saying goodbye to a favorite horse on a farm.

As he closes this chapter of his life, Murphy said he has been thankful and appreciative how the community has been to him over the 46 years.

“A huge thank you for allowing me to be a partner in the care of their pets’ health and for them to trust me to be that person,” Murphy said.

He hopes those folks find a veterinarian and a new practice.

“We’ve had a wonderful run and I’m happy for the years that I served,” he added.

Murphy said he’s been able to lead the life laid out in the James Herriot books *All Creatures Great and Small*, which covers the life of a veterinarian and romanticized the profession.

“I’ve been blessed. Truly blessed,” he said.



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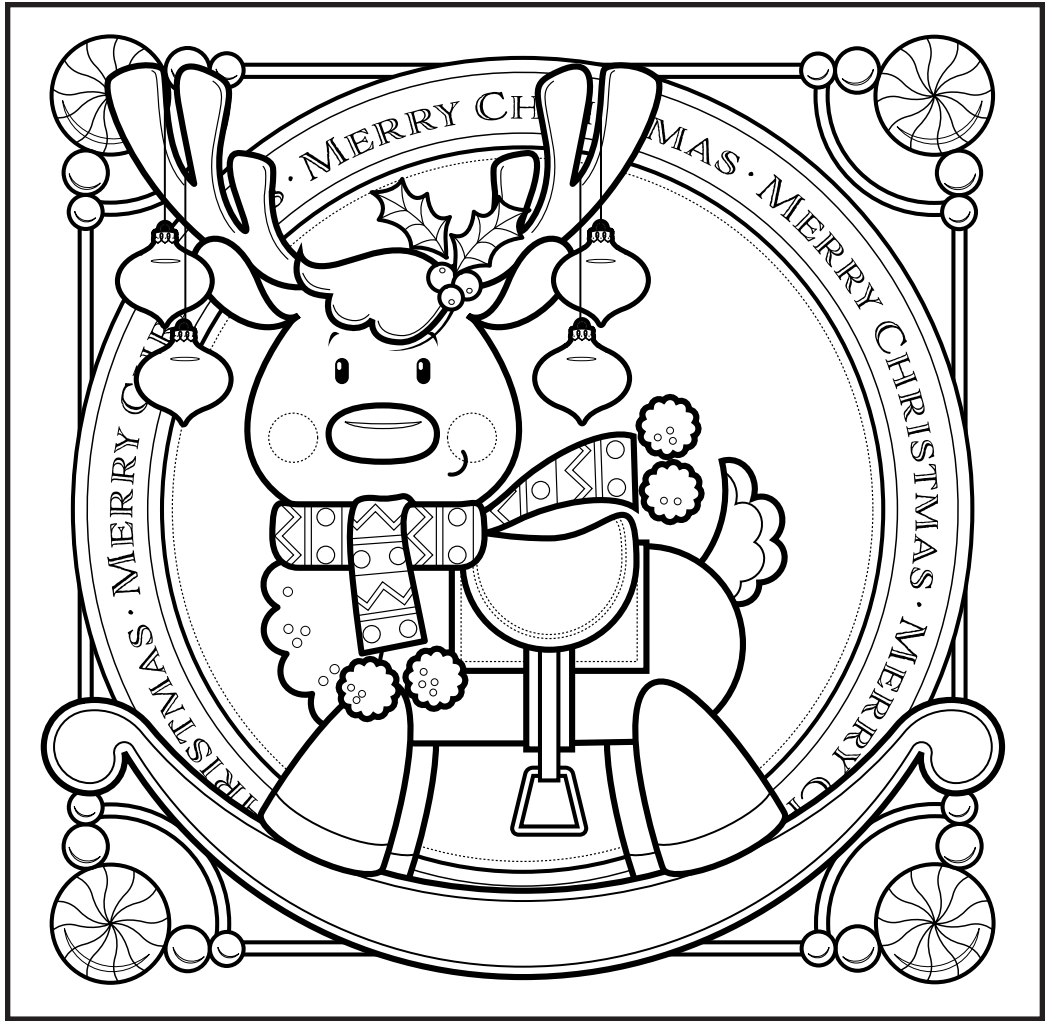
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Christmas cookies
I love to make Christmas cookies! My mom, dad, brothers and I make the cookies. My favorite cookie is gingerbread cookies. I put the gingerbread cookies in the gingerbread house. Then, we put candy on the house. Next, we take pictures of what we made and eat the cookies. This is so much fun!
Makhensy Escobar-Mejia
1st grade, Hancock

At Christmas, I like to wrap presents with my family. We use colorful wrapping paper. It feels smooth. I put bows on each present. When we are done, we make sugar cookies that look like reindeer, Santa and snowmen. They taste sugary and yummy! I can't wait to do it again this year.
Olivia Younker
1st grade, Hancock

Last winter, I went sledding with my mom in my front yard. We went down the hill together. Then, we played in the snow. I touched and smelled the snow. Some melted in my mouth. It did not taste like anything. It was freezing! Burr! We had fun. I cannot wait to do it again.
Tony Weller
1st grade, Hancock

Last Christmas, my mommy, sister and I had a snowball fight at my gram and pop-pop's house. We also went ice skating on their pond. We had to take the boat out of the water first. My mom ice skated too. She told me to get out of the way or get run over. I could smell my gram's hot chocolate coming from the beach house. It was awesome! I want to do it again this year.
Kayon Strott
1st grade, Hancock

Last winter, I was walking in the snow with my mom and dad. We were at Widmeyer Park. There was thick ice in the stream. I ran and slid on it. I heard water splashing under the ice. I had fun!
D.J. Mosser
1st grade, Hancock

Last Christmas, I threw snowballs at my parents and my brother Parker after it snowed. My dog Knox barked. Ruff, ruff! It was cold. I could hear the snow crunch as we walked. I had so, so, so, so, so much fun! I want to do it again this year.
Brooke McCusker
1st grade, Hancock

Last winter, I had a snowball fight in our front yard with my mom and her friend Molly. My dad stayed inside and watched a hunting show. I was wearing my snow pants and suspenders. I hit them 99 times. They couldn't hit me because I stayed behind my mom's car. I heard them yelling now's our chance to hit him. The snow was crunching. I put some in my mouth and it was cold! When it was over, I was the winner! I can't wait to do it again!
Blake Keefer
1st grade, Hancock

My favorite Christmas tradition is building a snowman with my mom. Afterwards, we put the snowman together. I get rocks from outside my play kitchen for his eyes. Next, I get two sticks for his arms. I go inside to get a sparkly scarf and a gray tophat. Finally, I use a carrot for his nose. His clothes feel fluffy and the snow is cold. He lasted about 8 days and melted slowly. We have fun!
Teagan Harsh
1st grade, Hancock

Last winter, my friend Garrett and I built a snowman at my house. I put a fake carrot on his face for a nose. Next, I made holes with my fingers for his mouth. Garrett put a scarf around his neck. We didn't have a hat, but our snowman still looked great. We knocked him down before we went inside. My fingers were frozen, but we had fun!
Haidden Brant
1st grade, Hancock

Last Christmas, my mom, dad, brother and I rode our rainbow sleds down the big hill at the high school. The cop was watching us to make sure we were safe. We connected our sleds and looked like a big caterpillar. I had fun, but I got really cold. This year, I hope we sled ride at home.
Easton Bain
1st grade, Hancock

Last year I went snowboarding with my sister Aubrey down the hill at my house. My fingers were shivering because it was very cold. The first time I went down, I had to stop for a deer. I stood very still so I didn't scare it. My neighbor gave me a ride back to my house to get some deer food. Then, I put the food into our deer feeder. I hope I see the deer again.
James Stout
1st grade, Hancock

I made a snowman with my mom last Christmas. I felt the freezing snow hit my face. I ate snowflakes. I loved it so, so, so much! When we went inside, we baked sugar cookies. I even made one shaped like a snowman. Yummy! I felt happy.
Lilly Caluzzi
1st grade, Hancock

Hi, my name is Snowy, the elf. I help cook for the Clauses. Their favorite foods are milk, cookies, and strawberries. In Santa's Workshop, I make comfy pillows and soft blankets. I make stuffy toys, like squishables and stretchables. One of my favorite jobs is to make sure the kids are asleep before Santa comes down their chimney to deliver their presents. I live in an icehouse with my sisters and brothers. I can see Santa's house from my window. I love the North Pole!
Cayden Booth
2nd grade, Hancock

Hi, my name is Lilly and I'm an elf. I go to work in Santa's workshop. I make candy canes. I eat them, too. I help feed the reindeer so they can get ready for the big ride. They like to eat different kinds of grasses. I help with the cookie baking. My favorite cookies to make are my special raisin and m&m cookies. I learned that recipe from my mom and dad. It is so fun to be an elf.
Kirsten Barnhart
2nd grade Hancock

Hi, my name is Jaxson and I'm an elf at the North Pole. My main job is to make toys in Santa's workshop. I make baseballs, bats, army men, and toy cars. After I make them, I paint them so they look cool. After a busy day at work, I like to hunt reindeer and have snowball fights with my friends.
Jaxson Younker
2nd grade, Hancock

Hi, my name is Vincent and I am an elf. On a normal day, I get out of bed and eat eggs and toast. Then, I go to Santa's colossal workshop and make stuffys. Some are teddy bears, owls, and puppies. During my lunch break, I eat pasta with sauce. After a busy day at the workshop, I like to train reindeer to become one of Santa's reindeer. Sometimes, I hang out with Frosty the Snowman before going home for the night.
Vincent Baun
2nd grade, Hancock



Santa's To-Do List
1. Make toys.
2. Paint them.
3. Assign two elves to watch the sled.
4. Assign another two to watch my reindeer.
5. Assign another two to guard the workshop door.
6. Help Mrs. Claus make cookies.
7. Go to sleep and rest up for the big day tomorrow.
Aubriy Mabey
2nd grade, Hancock

Santa's To-Do List
1. See who is good and bad, check it twice.
2. Make the bed.
3. Get the kids presents ready.
4. Wash my warm suit.
5. Feed the calm reindeer.
6. Eat a big delicious dinner.
7. Go to sleep in my comfortable warm bed.
Kinley Beall
2nd grade, Hancock

Reasons Why I Love Christmas
1. You can catch Santa on camera.
2. You can bake cookies for Santa.
3. You get gifts on Christmas.
4. You can play til bedtime.
5. Someone takes pictures of you opening gifts.
6. You get to sleep in your new Christmas pajamas.
7. You decorate for Christmas.
8. You get to wear Christmas clothing.
Kylee Yost
2nd grade, Hancock

Hi, my name is Elfy and I'm an elf. I love to make toys for Santa. My favorite toy to make is the fidget toys because I sometimes spin them and pop them. Shhhhhh! I love to clean Santa's sleigh. I polish it to make it sparkle. I also make candy canes for kids (but only the good kids). So be good kids. Santa only gives toys to good kids. OK?
Raelyn Miller
2nd grade, Hancock

Hi, my name is Buffy, the elf. During the day, I feed the reindeer. They love to eat carrots. My favorite reindeer is Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. During the night, I help Santa pack all of the presents for Christmas. It takes over 30 hours to do this. It has been an exhausting but good day.
Autumn Ford
2nd grade, Hancock

Hi, my name is Leapy the Elf. I make toy cars in Santa's Workshop. I make all kinds of cars like jeeps, trucks, and vans. My favorite cars to make are the race cars. When I'm not working, I love to play in the snow. I build snowmen and I make snow angels. After a busy day, I go home and drink hot chocolate.
Gunner Darnell
2nd grade, Hancock

Reasons Why I Love Christmas
1. It is Jesus's birthday.
2. Everyone gets presents.
3. We get to spend time with family.
4. I get to make cookies with sprinkles.
5. Sometimes, it snows!
6. I get to go shopping on Christmas Eve.
7. I love to wear Christmas pajamas.
Haven Shank
2nd grade, Hancock

Hi, my name is Jim the Elf. I live at the North Pole and I make toys. I make stuffed fish animals like the clownfish, blobfish, and gray whale. I help put toys in Santa's sleigh on Christmas Eve. When I am finished, I go home and go to bed because I'm tired.
Cyler Breedon
2nd grade, Hancock

Hi, my name is Twinkle and I am an elf. I get to make toys and see Santa Claus. However, my absolute favorite thing to do is pranking little kids. I love making kids laugh. It makes me happy!
Mia Golden
2nd grade, Hancock

My family has several Christmas traditions throughout the holidays. One thing that we do every year is bake cookies as a family. We make sugar cookies and my sister and I get to decorate them. We, also, make m&m cookies. Another tradition is that we wear matching elf pajamas. Also, we watch Christmas movies together like "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas" and "Rudolph". Finally, we go to a water park over Christmas Break each year. What are your family traditions?
Alaina Johnson
2nd grade, Hancock

My Christmas To-Do List
1. Be good.
2. Clean up the living room.
3. Put out cookies and milk.
4. Go to school.
5. Be good at school.
6. Be good to Santa Claus.
7. Make my list.
8. Make my bed.
9. Be nice to my friends.
10. Be nice to people....because Santa is watching!
Blaire Himes
2nd grade, Hancock



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Christmas

I had a great Christmas last year. I got a bike and it was heavy. It was a BMX bike and was gray and black. I rode it a lot even though I wrecked because it was hard to pedal. My dad has to carry it in the building for the winter so it won't rust. I can't wait until it's spring and I ride again. This year, I would like a Nerf football. Gifts aren't the only thing you should love. Love is the thing you should love the most!

Jonathon Lenney
2nd grade, Hancock

Christian's Top 3 things about Christmas

1) Decorating the Christmas tree. 2) Singing at people's houses. 3) Santa bringing presents on Christmas Eve.

Christian Forshey
2nd grade, Hancock

Christmas Day

Here are my top 5 reasons I love Christmas: 5) Presents. 4) Decorations. 3) Lights. 2) Christmas tree. 1) Family.

Leo Rose
2nd grade, Hancock

My Elf on the Shelf

Here is what I think my elf does all day. First, I think he goes to Santa's workshop. Then, I think he builds toy trucks and other toys. Next, I think he eats lunch. Probably tootsie rolls because elves have a sugar diet. After lunch, I think he wraps the gifts. Finally, I think he fills up a cup of water for Santa on Christmas Eve. At least, he helps Santa deliver all the toys. Merry Christmas!

Carter Hartman
2nd grade, Hancock

The small elf

I have a small elf. His name is Little Elf and he is red and white. Every day he hides in the tree until Christmas. One time he sat in the tub. Another time the dogs got him. My elf is the best. My elf and I hope you have a Merry Christmas!

Duke Kratz
2nd grade, Hancock

Christmas Day

First, we make cookies and put them in the oven. Then, we open our presents and say thank you. We play with our presents together. Finally, we work together to make Christmas dinner. I love spending time together with my family. I hope you do too.

Wren Copp
2nd grade, Hancock

Marshallmallow Rice sparkle

My elf is cool and amazing. She did something bad the other day. She put toilet paper all over the bathroom, kitchen and living room! She is very naughty. She needs to calm down! Do you have an elf? If you do, I hope she behaves! Merry Christmas!

Abigail Rice
2nd grade, Hancock

Holiday family time

I love spending time with family. All of us decorate cookies together. We make the cookies so we can put them out for Santa. One time I put too many sprinkles on the cookies and I broke Pappy's tooth! We also decorate a Christmas tree and put an angel on top. We normally have a theme for our Christmas tree. I love Christmas and I hope you have a great Christmas too!

Haven Michael
2nd grade, Hancock

Camden's top 5 things about Christmas

5. Getting good toys. 4. Making gingerbread houses. 3. Making yummy cookies. 2. Going sledding down the big hill. 1. Decorating the tree with my family.

Camden Curry
2nd grade, Hancock

Marshall's top 10 Christmas list

10. Getting presents. 9. Putting up the Christmas tree. 8. Controlling the train. 7. Watching a Christmas movie. 6. Giving gifts. 5. Playing records. 4. Building gingerbread houses. 3. Sledding. 2. Playing with my brothers. 1. Spending time with my family.

Marshall Shoemaker
2nd grade, Hancock

Christmas fun

To me, Christmas means you celebrate. I go to my grandparents and meet with my family on Christmas Eve. Once everybody is there, we have a feast. Then we clean up and everyone leaves. The next day on Christmas, we open presents and I go to three different places! I hope you have a good Christmas too!

Cora Sherwin
2nd grade, Hancock

What I love about Christmas

I love putting up the Christmas tree and I love opening presents with my family. I love playing with the toys I get and also seeing Santa around town. I love going to the mall because I get to pick out my brother's gifts. I get my two dogs bones for Christmas too! These are some of the things I love about Christmas. I hope you love Christmas too.

Jaxton Welch
2nd grade, Hancock

Christmas

Hi, I want to tell you about my Christmas. We always wake up early. We turn on A Christmas Story and watch it while we open presents. We eat Christmas breakfast together. We eat pancakes, eggs, sausage and Christmas cookies. Then, we play in the snow and make a medium sized snowman. We also have a snowball fight and sled ride. I hope you have a good Christmas!

Piper Price
2nd grade, Hancock

My elf Sparkles

I would like to tell you all about my elf Sparkles. This morning she was hanging on the window with paper snowflakes. She wears a skirt and a scarf. Sometimes she gives me presents before Christmas. last year, she gave me a pink sparkly unicorn! The same year she gave me Christmas pajamas. The first day she came, she sat on the Christmas tree by the reindeer ornament. My elf Sparkles makes me happy. I hope you feel happy this Christmas too!

Clara Hess
2nd grade, Hancock

Rose and David

If I had an elf I would name them Rose if it was a girl and David if it was a boy. I would want them to be funny. David would walk around the house all over the place for something to do. He might go draw Santa on my art desk. Rose might be in the kitchen making something good to eat like cookies. She might be climbing on the Christmas tree while David might be playing with our old toys behind the couch. Then, maybe they would both hide under my bed or go in my book nook and read a story together! Maybe one day David and Rose can come visit and not get kicked out! Merry Christmas!

Ainsley Weber
2nd grade, Hancock

My Christmas elf

Please let me tell you about my elf. His name is Elfy. He visits me every Christmas – even when we moved! He is red and white with brown hair. He is cool and funny. Every Christmas he writes me a message on tiolet paper! My elf makes my Christmas lots of fun! I hope you have a fun Christmas too!

Dakhota Miller
2nd grade, Hancock

Christmas morning

Hi, allow me to tell you about my Christmas morning. First, we eat cinnamon rolls. They are big and yummy. Then we go to my Grandma's house and open presents. After that, we go have lunch. Finally, we watch Christmas movies together. lastly, we make cookies and eat them. I hope you have a good Christmas!

Kinley Myers
2nd grade, Hancock

Christmas

I have a good Christmas at my house. We put up the tree on our table. After that, we sometimes play a game. Then, we make cookies for Santa. We watch a Christmas movie and we open presents. Finally, my cousin and uncle come to celebrate with us. I hope you have a good Christmas!

Maximus Graven
2nd grade, Hancock

Christmas

My number one reason I love Christmas is spending time with my family. I play with my cousin Bentley. I open presents with him. Then, our family eats together. We open presents later. We talk to each other. I love my family because they make me feel good.

Lincoln Fleege
2nd grade, Hancock

Letters To The Editor
over 400 words
will not be published.




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Holiday Event Calendar

Saturday, December 24
5 p.m. – Christmas Eve Worship service at Catalpa United Methodist Church, 12314 Willow Road, Hancock.
7 p.m. – Christmas Eve Worship service at Piney Plains United Methodist Church, 12708 Faith Circle NE, Little Orleans.

Sunday, December 25
Merry Christmas to All!

THERE WILL BE NO PAPER ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28

Make a fancy New Year’s meal for less

by Trish Rudder

A simple seafood stew is perfect for a New Year’s Eve dinner for two without spending too much time or money to celebrate. Serve it with a simple salad and some good crusty bread.

Seafood Stew for two

1 frozen pack of a 10.6 oz. cooked frozen seafood mix, such as Pana Pesca
2 TB. butter
1 small onion, diced
1 cup of small white or red potatoes, diced
1-1/2 cups chicken broth
1 cup of half and half or heavy cream
Pinch of seafood seasoning (like Old Bay)
1 TB. minced parsley
Salt and pepper to taste

Melt butter in saucepan and sauté onion and potatoes over medium-low heat until are soft but not browned. Add chicken broth. Add frozen package of mixed seafood and heat gently through, about five minutes. Add cream and seafood seasoning. Add chopped parsley. Taste and season with salt and pepper.

Letters Policy

Letters to the editor are invited. They must be signed, typed and double-spaced. The writer must include a phone number and address for verification.

No more than two letters from any individual will be printed in a four-week period.

Letters are subject to editing. Letters longer than 400 words will not be published. Nor will letters that are libelous, too personal or not of general interest to the public.

Letters are a way for citizens to comment on current issues. They are not meant to provide anyone with a platform to write again and again about their philosophy, group or business.

Thank you notes and political endorsements are considered advertising. Form letters are often discarded.

Yuletide touches



Downtown residents added their own touches of holiday color with wreaths and more.



Décor, ornaments, household gifts and more fill the Flannel on the Trail store window downtown with a holiday glow.

People Told Us...

—PUNSTER SAID: My husband waited until the last minute to get his gifts sorted out for family members. When I looked at the clock, I told him it was nearly midnight. He said, “Yeah, I know. I’m wrapping it up!”

—Winter becomes official with the Winter Solstice. It’s the longest night and shortest day of the year. Today, December 21, is the first official day of Winter.

—Christmas comes this Sunday, December 25.

—REMEMBER: There will be no Hancock News on Wednesday, December 28. See you on Wednesday, January 4, 2023.

—OLD LORE: If you work on New Year’s Day, you will work all year long.

—Problems with mail fraud or theft, or receiving scam material via mail? Call the U.S. Postal Inspection Service hotline at 1-877-876-2455.

—Charitable contributions of food and money to help needy local people can be sent to the Interfaith Service Coalition, 116 West High Street, Hancock, MD 21750.

—Tell our advertisers you read about them in The Hancock News.

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ON-SITE PREVIEW OF ITEMS WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4 • 1-4 P.M.
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Train Club receives multiple displays as donations to new exhibit

by Geoff Fox

There's a miniature town in Hancock's Town Hall where the residents are enjoying a circus, a wedding and funeral at the local church, "Seven Year Itch" is playing at the local theater, and the town is protected by Batman and Ghostbusters.

No — it's not a real town with living residents. Instead, it's a model train set donated to the Hancock Train Club by Evan Reichard.

Beside Reichard's display is a vast mountain landscape with tracks, a church, bridges, an oil rig, a hobo camp, and many tunnels. That display was donated by the City of Boonsboro.

Shawn Faith, who is an officer with the Hancock Police, has been interested in trains since he was kid and likes the model building and landscaping aspect of the hobby.

When he was younger, Faith's father had trains and he just kept in it.

Faith, along with a few other train enthusiasts, have formed a train club in Hancock. Once the train room in Town Hall is completely finished — which should be this spring — Faith said they'll be inviting other train enthusiasts to join their club.

"There's more model train people than what you think," he said. "There's a lot of people that are into it, actually."

The displays in the room on the second floor were fully displayed in their original housing and taken apart and transported in U-Hauls so nothing would be lost.

The landscape display was a solid piece in the basement of Boonsboro's Town Hall and had to be sawed apart just to remove it from there.

Reichard's display was just boards with the trains — the boards were numbered along with the totes so it could be put back together in Hancock.

"We didn't lose any pieces, luckily," Faith said about the two sets.

Set up of the two train displays is still in process. Train builder Reichard, who is in his 90s, is still coming into Hancock Town Hall and piecing his display back together.

Faith and other members put the table up and bolted everything together, leaving Reichard to come from Berkeley Springs on his own leisure time to set up the town and train display.

"I'm pretty positive we'll be ready by spring," Faith said.

Faith's own collection is in a closet in the train room.

"I've seen a lot of model railroads in my time and this one's pretty immaculate, pretty good setup for a circus," Faith said of Reichard's scene.

Faith said Reichard had a woman hand-sew the tent for the railroad display. A lot of the details on Reichard's display was handmade and is irreplaceable, Faith said.

In the Boonsboro display, a concrete, stone bridge section



The Hancock Train Club, along with Evan Reichard, is still working on setting up this train set on the second floor of Hancock's Town Hall. Reichard donated his train set, which includes this circus display. Reichard had the circus tent specially made for his train display.

of that railroad is another favorite detail.

Faith said it means a lot that both Reichard and Boonsboro entrusted him and the Train Club with their displays.

"Definitely Mr. Reichard that he actually trusts us to have something he's built and worked on for years beyond years," Faith said.

The Boonsboro train display, Faith said, had never been displayed publicly and was never going to be displayed.

He added Boonsboro officials are excited to come up to Hancock and see their display once it is functional.

There's one control panel set up at the Reichard display and another is in the works for the Boonsboro display.

The displays becoming part of the Hancock Train Club came about since Faith had always wanted to do a train display.

Faith said he contacted Boonsboro about the train set, remembering the display being in the basement of the Boonsboro Police Department when he was working down there.

Since it was just collecting dust in the basement, Faith contacted the mayor of Boonsboro inquiring about it. Faith said the mayor donated the display to the club.

Reichard display's came to Hancock through a conversation with Berkeley Springs mayor Scott Merki. Reichard had wanted to display his circus/train creation in the old Berkeley Springs train depot, but there wasn't room for it.

Merki made contact with Reichard to see if he'd be willing to donate to the Hancock club.

"He said he would donate it, long as it was displayed for everybody to see," Faith said.

There's a lot more to come to the upstairs room, Faith said, noting there would be more trains on display around the room.

He said Merki and Hancock Mayor Tim Smith have come together to donate a small display the size of coffee table for the room.

The main display in the



The Town of Boonsboro had this train display sitting in the basement of their police department and recently donated to the Hancock Train Club. The display is being restored and will be displayed for the first time this coming spring.

room is an HO gauge, which is about 1:87 scale. The largest is G gauge.

Faith said the gauge is in reference to the size of the train.

Faith's personal collection is in a closet in the display room and he said he plans to add and rotate those trains with the ones already in the room. Some pieces, though, are part of the Boonsboro display.

One piece Faith is trying to get a hold of is a Western Maryland Railroad engine. That railroad was prominent here in Hancock.

He does have Chessie System pieces, though.

"Some people love a train under their [Christmas] tree," he said. "They don't go as far as this."

There are already experienced guys in the train hobby and Faith picks Reichard's brain "all the time" getting secrets and things he never knew.

He also noted there was a lot of time involved in the hobby and it can get expensive.

Faith said there are still shops that sell supplies and accessories for model trains, but they are getting rare. There are train stores in Hagerstown, Cumberland, Bunker Hill, Blue Ridge Summit, and Winchester.

"It's the year of the online now, so you can buy everything online," Faith said.

Once opened, the display will be open to the public and fully functional where people can push buttons, moving things around.

Faith said because of the value of the displays, the club will have someone on hand from the club to supervise. Most importantly, the displays will be free to view.

Faith said the club is just proud to set up and display the train sets.

Panthers' boys' basketball team falls to Heritage Academy at home

by Lisa Schauer

Hancock High School's boys' varsity basketball team hosted Hagerstown's Heritage Academy for their second home game of the season on Friday evening, December 16.

Junior Isaiah Demory scored seven points, made three rebounds and two steals.

Sophomore Aiden McCarty scored four points, made three rebounds and two steals.

Junior Jordyn King scored three points, made two assists and one rebound.

Sophomore Jacob Anderson scored two points, and made three rebounds.

Junior Mason Conrad scored one point, and had four rebounds.

During all four quarters, the Panthers (1-2) fought to put points on the leaderboard, ultimately falling to Heritage Academy 77-27.

The next home game will be Tuesday, December 27 at 7:30 p.m. for a tournament game against Salisbury-Elk Lick School of Somerset County, Pa.

Panthers' girls' varsity basketball team falls to 0-4 on the road

by Lisa Schauer

Hancock High School's girls' varsity basketball team lost their away non-conference game by a score of 49-18 at Turkeyfoot Valley Area High School on Wednesday evening, December 14.

The lady Panthers' played at home on Monday evening, December 19, where they hosted Hagerstown's Grace Academy.

Honor Roll

Hancock Middle/Senior High School
Marking period one

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>"A" honor roll</p> <p>Seventh grade — Madison Booth, Leland Clark, Payton McMahon and Sarah Smith.</p> <p>Eighth grade — Leah Unger.</p> <p>Ninth grade — Ethan Calhoun-Hill, Lydia Colosimo and Sophie Hamil.</p> <p>10th grade — Brody Stratton.</p> <p>12th grade — Caitlin Lennon-Puthoff.</p> <p>"A/B" honor roll</p> <p>Sixth grade — Braxtyn Hohn, Savanna Lawson, Aryanna Robinson and Jilian Spielman.</p> <p>Seventh grade — Brooke Parker.</p> | <p>Eighth grade — Nikole Hoffman and Lidia Spielman.</p> <p>Ninth grade — Tyler Clingerman, Sydney Hamil, Noah Lennon-Puthoff, Brooklyn McCusker and Shaimier Thompson.</p> <p>10th grade — Autumn Beall, Nicholas Creek, Alyssa Keefer, Hayden McCarty, Payton Mosier and Jenna Wells.</p> <p>11th grade — Amy Davis, Henry Doll, Courtney Ginevan, Alyssa Morris, Keelyn Seal and Skylar Smith.</p> <p>12th grade — Joslyn Foltz, Hailey McDaniel and Zachary Smith.</p> |
|---|---|

The Hancock News
HOURS

Monday & Wednesday
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Closed Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
Convenient Drop Box On Site

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How to get in the sports section

Getting your team's scores, team photos and schedules into *The Hancock News* is easy! Coaches and representatives of school teams, adult and youth leagues are encouraged to report their schedules and results in *The Hancock News*, and there are several ways to do it.

--Bring information to the news office at 263 Pennsylvania Avenue Extended (next to the optical practice) during our regular business hours, or use the drop box next to the front door for after-hours submissions.

--Email information and photos to the news desk at news@hancocknews.us.

--Call *The Hancock News* at 301-678-6255.

A deadline of Monday at noon is set for all regular submissions, Results from Monday night sporting events should be submitted by 8 a.m. on Tuesday to make it in that week's newspaper.

See you in the sports section!

Wrap Up Your Christmas List
with a Subscription to
The Hancock News

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League bowling scores

Bowling scores for the Tri-State Mixed on November 24:

High scratch game: Mike's Scrap Metal 489, Country Side Doodles 481 and Strikers 477.

High scratch series: Mike's Scrap Metal 1,406, Strikers 1,394 and Country Side Doodles 1,364.

High scratch game men: Bobby Farris 215, Pete Coe 199 and Dick Voorhaar 196. Women: Bernie Michael 195, Deloris Stotler 193 and Shirley Whittaker 155.

High scratch series men: Bobby Farris 579, Dick Voorhaar 509 and Pete Coe 508. Women: Deloris Stotler 554, Bernie Michael 491 and Shirley Whittaker 427.

High average men: Pete Coe 174, Mike Burks 167 and Dick Voorhaar 166. Women: Deloris Stotler 166, Shirley Whittaker 143 and Sandy Bettag 143.

Standings: Mike's Scrap metal 21-9, King Pins 24-16, Country Side Doodles 24-16 and Strikers 17-23.

Bowling scores for the Tri-State Mixed on November 28:

High scratch game: Mike's Scrap Metal 511, The Con-cords 510 and Old Vets 507.

High scratch series: Old Vets 1,451, Mike's Scrap Metal 1,443 and Git-R-Done 1,416.

High scratch game men: Mike Burks 196, Dick Voorhaar 191 and Bob Af-feldt 191. Women: Sandy Bettag 185, Shirley Whit-taker 170 and Susie King 165.

High scratch series men: Pete Coe 519, Bob Affeldt 512 and Joey Giles 510. Women: Sandy Bettag 503, Shirley Whittaker 467 and Deloris Stotler 464.

High average men: Pete Coe 179, Jamie Stoner 175 and Mike Burks 163. Women: Deloris Stotler 155, Shirley Whittaker 151 and Sandy Bettag 149.

Standings: Mike's Scrap metal 24-24, Team Name Here 21.5-26.5, The Con-cords 21-27, Git-R-Done 18-30, Spare me 18-30, Kaponites 17-31 and Old Vets 13.5-34.5.

Bowling scores for the Tri-State Mixed on December 5:

High scratch game: Mike's Scrap Metal 555, Git-R-Done 532 and Old Vets 467.

High scratch series: Mike's Scrap Matel 1,479, Git-R-Done 1,417 and Old Vets 1,346.

High scratch game men: Mike Burks 212, Dick Voorhaar 203 and Jamie Stoner 201. Women: Deloris Stotler 182, Sandy Bettag 170 and Shirley Whittaker 158.

High scratch series men: Jamie Stoner 579, Pete Coe 521 and Dick Voorhaar 514. Women: Sandy Bettag 501, Bernie Michael 462 and Shirley Whittaker 455.

High average men: Pete Coe 178, Jamie Stoner 177 and Mike Burks 162. Women: Deloris Stotler 155, Sandy Bettag 150 and Bernie Michael 146.

Standings: Mike's Scrap Metal 27-27, Team Name Here 24.5-29.5, The Con-cords 22-32, Spare Me 19-35, Kaponites 19-35, Git-R-Done 18-34 and Old Vets 15.5-38.5.

Bowling scores for the Thursday Night Mixed on December 1:

High scratch game: Mike's Scrap Metal 567, Country Side Doodles 556 and King Pins 544.

High scratch series: King Pins 1,586, Mike's Scrap Metal 1,498 and Country Side Doodles 1,453.

High scratch game men: Pete Coe 224, Dick Voorhaar 212 and Mike Burks 199. Women: Debbie Wachter 218, Shirley Whittaker 210 and Susie King 201.

High scratch series men: Pete Coe 589, John DuVall 532 and Mike Burks 523. Women: Deloris Stotler 554, Sandy Bettag 513 and De-bbie Wachter 503.

High average men: John DuVall 177, Pete Coe 176 and Mike Burks 168. Women: Deloris Stotler 166, Sandy Bettag 145 and Shirley Whittaker 144.

Standings: Mike's Scrap Metal 33-11, King Pins 28-16, Country Side Doodles 26-18 and Strikers 17-27.

Yuletide touches at every turn

Anyone who takes time to walk through downtown Hancock this holiday season will see that residents and business owners have put little Christmas touches along every block. From old Christmas doll displays to tempting gift offerings in shop win-dows, there are signs of the season just about everywhere.



Even if the weather outside gets frightful, this cozy deco-rated porch in downtown Hancock looks comfortable and full of the season.



A Christmas mouse, angel, lady and bear make a cheerful holiday line-up in a Hancock storefront.



Willie's Primitive Attic covered both the festive and the grinch-y in his storefront window.



Bulbs, berries and pinecones adorn Hendershot's sizeable storefront wreath.



A sweet gingerbread lady beams out of the window of the Fractured Banana downtown.



Santa waits on a comfortable chair with his bag of gifts in downtown Hancock as Christmas gets closer on the calen-dar.

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HCC provides free professional clothing to students

During the fall semester, Hagerstown Community College's Internship and Job Services Office has been conducting its annual clothing drive to collect clean, lightly worn, and ready-to-wear professional clothing and accessories. The donated items are made available, free of charge, to students who are preparing for internships and employment opportunities.

Typically, the items are offered to students in April, but this year, the response has been so successful that a special one-day pop-up shop was held in early December. As a result, 109 clothing items were given away to students.

Since 2018, the Career Closet has served an average

of 150 students annually. Students with the Washington County Public Schools Marshall Street School Job Development Program assist in the coordination of this annual event.

The clothing drive will continue through March 31, 2023. Acceptable items include jackets, shirts, blouses, skirts, dresses, pants, suits, shoes, ties, scarves, and jewelry/accessories. Donation collection boxes are located in Hagerstown at the following locations:

- Washington County Chamber of Commerce (1 S. Potomac Street)
- Marshall Street School (1350 Marshall Street)
- Washington County Public Schools (10435 Downsville Pike)
- HCC Valley Mall Campus (17301 Valley Mall Road)
- HCC Main Campus (11400 Robinwood Drive – ASA Building, ATC Building, CP Building, and Student Center)

HCC's Career Closet will offer its full pop-up shop on campus the week of April 14 to 17, 2023. Items are available to students by private appointment as needed.

For more information, contact Internship and Job Services Coordinator Laura Scafide at internshipandjob.services@hagerstowncc.edu or 240-500-2260.



Some of my family traditions are sliding down hills, opening presents, baking cookies, exchanging presents and visiting other family members to exchange more gifts. Then I visit my Gram's house. Then I give her gifts too. Then I go visit my neighbors to give them gifts. Then we open more presents of ours. Then we go sledding for the rest of the day! We get hot cocoa when we get home and watch a movie in our pjs. We get food. Then we go to bed. That's our family traditions for Christmas.

Stevie Bishop
3rd grade, Hancock

My family opens gifts on Christmas Day! Then we go to my Gram's house to play games and open gifts. If it snows, I play in the snow with my brother and build a snowman or go sledding. We also drink hot cocoa and make snowman cookies. We like to play hide-and-seek either in the snow or in the house. We also ride a four wheeler and a dirt bike on Christmas. Finally, we like to watch the Family Vacation movie. I love Christmas with my family.

Kambri Crosen
3rd grade, Hancock

Winter is fun! Winter is the best season because it's Christmas time and we can spend time with family and friends. I like to open presents and be surprised! Winter is fun because of the snow. You can ride your sled down the hill. Just watch out for trees! I love to lay out cookies and milk for Santa Claus too! You can also probably hear him go "Ho! Ho! Ho!" Do you like Christmas? Winter is fun because you can have hot cocoa, eat popcorn and watch movies too!

Aiden Diehl
3rd grade, Hancock

Dear Santa,
I would like to have a phone and a yoyo and an RC car. Thank you.

Bradley Hull
3rd grade, Hancock

Christmas weather
Christmas weather is fun because you can go down fast on the hill on a sled or make an igloo. Then you can have hot chocolate and you can play with your toys. I go to my Nan's house to eat Christmas dinner. Before dinner, we get to open one present per person! Things you can do on winter break is put up your Christmas tree, build a snowman and make snow angels. On Christmas morning we open presents and then eat breakfast. I like to wear a Christmas sweater on Christmas Day.

Madison Imes
3rd grade, Hancock

Winter is a good season but winter is cold and windy so get your mittens and grab your sleigh! Oh, of course grab your coat and sleigh and sled down a hill. Everybody loves winter! And people who don't like winter it's fine. Winter is my favorite season.

Ryleigh Burwell
3rd grade, Hancock

One time we were going to see Christmas lights we saw a reindeer and Santa. Also when it was Christmas my dad and mom woke me up early. I was so happy it was Christmas. I went to the living room and I saw gifts. I was also excited about the Christmas party at my house. Since we were having a Christmas party I added lots of Christmas decorations. I put them up for the Christmas party. We put gifts in our stockings. I was happy what I got in my stocking because it was candy.

Aaron Phillips
3rd grade, Hancock

I listen to Christmas music every Christmas! While I listen to Christmas music, I bake cookies with my grandma. We set out cookies and milk and carrots for Santa and his reindeer and when it's morning we check if Santa and his reindeer ate it.

Ever Purnell
3rd grade, Hancock

On Christmas Eve I get to open presents but I can't choose a big one. And I love playing outside in the winter with a lot of snow. I like throwing snowballs at people and plus I love the snow and winter and fall are my favorite seasons.

Channing Simpson
3rd grade, Hancock

A family tradition in my family is we take all the stockings in our attic and all the glitter glue we have and we make stockings for us, our turtles, our dog, our cats and our rats and then the next day when they are dry we hang them up and put the things we got in them and because it's the morning we look for the elves.

Alex Sipes
3rd grade, Hancock

Traditions
Some traditions that I have are my elf comes. I go see Christmas lights and I open 1 present on Christmas Eve. One time my elf didn't come and I was so mad and sad. My elf got in my cookies. One time we went to the lights but they weren't there. I love family traditions. Do you have any? Have a great Christmas!

Shaelyn Spielman
3rd grade, Hancock

Continue having fun
Hot chocolate
Redo snow angel
Inside there is an elf
Snow angel
To the presents
Merry Christmas
Antler decorations
Santa

Kayden Triggs
3rd grade, Hancock

One of my favorite holiday traditions is drinking my Paps punch every year on New Year's Day. It is so delicious and he makes it with rainbow sherbet and Sprite. My family and I enjoy drinking this together. My Pap makes it with extra love!

Jansen Truax
3rd grade, Hancock

One morning I got out of bed and went outside. My dad was out there. The shed was open so I went inside the shed and I got my sled. I had a pretty good plan. I was going to see if I could go down the hill but the hill was grass not snow. But I still thought it would work. It did work and I know why it did. On the bottom of the sled there is slippery stuff on it. That's why it works.

Cooper Williams
3rd grade, Hancock

In the snow I like to build snowmen. First I make a big snowball then I make a medium size. After that, I make a small snowball. I stack them up from biggest to smallest. Then I get a carrot and two coal pieces. After I do that I get some more coal and I put a hat on it. That is how I build a snowman.

Emily Yommer
3rd grade, Hancock

Christmas is my favorite holiday because me and my sister get to bake cookies. Me and my sister also give each other presents on Christmas Eve and we get to open one. My family also hides a pickle ornament in the tree and whoever finds it gets good luck for the next year.

Regan Schriever
3rd grade, Hancock



*Wise Men
Still Follow Jesus
Have a
Blessed Christmas*
Pat's Hair Designs
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Shonda, Lori, Missy,
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Bethany, Dina

Chocolate chips
Oven baked
Oh no, one cookie got burnt
Kindly share then with family
Ice cold milk
Eat the cookies
Santa will love them
Thomas Donahue
3rd grade, Hancock

I love Jesus. Jesus is the most important thing at Christmas. I play with my friends on Christmas Eve and we play in snow with snowballs.

Nazir Fulton
3rd grade, Hancock

Snow is so much fun
Nutmcracker's are fun too
Opening presents is the most fun
Winter is so much fun.

Kaylee Garrett
3rd grade, Hancock

Around Christmas I like to drink hot chocolate. Winter is very nice. My favorite part is opening presents. These are the reasons why I love Christmas.

Henry Glardon
3rd grade, Hancock

One day on Christmas Eve my family and I went to Taco Bell and we saw a homeless man. We got him 3 tacos because he was so hungry. Then it was snowing, so my family went skiing. It was really fun. Then my family and I had a great skiing race. Finally we opened the presents and watched a Christmas Story. That is why I loved Christmas of 2021.

Carter Kerns
3rd grade, Hancock

On Christmas my family and I go to my Grammy's house for a fun tradition. We look for a pickle in her tree. We play many rounds and there is always a winner. At nighttime, we leave my Grammy's house and we give hugs and kisses.

Liam Worthington
3rd grade, Hancock



Here Comes Santa Claus
You better watch out! Santa is on his way, but we already know you've been very good to us this year. Thank you for your patronage.
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Merry Christmas
From Our Family to Yours



In The Spirit Of The Season



Wishing all the best to our friends and neighbors, all over town!

Thank you for your friendship and support.

Town of Hancock
Mayor, Council & Employees

I'm here to talk about Christmas. On the night before Christmas we set out cookies and milk. Once I'm in bed I close my eyes. Then when I wake up and head out to the living room to see a ton of presents. Then we open them up. Once we're done we get dressed to go to my cousin's house and we open presents there too. My little cousins has tons of present to open. As for me, I'm fine because I already opened my presents. But even though presents are fun, there is nothing better than being with family.

Ashton Morris
3rd grade, Hancock

On Christmas my family celebrates Jesus birthday and we all love Jesus. I also like that Santa brings wonderful presents that I open with excitement. The food is always so good on Christmas. On Christmas I spend time with my family sitting by the fire drinking hot coco. We also have a tradition to hide some fake pickles in the Christmas tree. Whoever finds one first gets good luck. I love spending time with my family on Christmas.

Makenna Mosier
3rd grade, Hancock

First, I wake up Christmas morning and celebrate Jesus birthday. Second, we eat and then we play with family and friends. Next, we build a snowman and then we open presents together as a family. Last, we will drink hot coco. This is why I like Christmas.

Chayce Munday
3rd grade, Hancock

**Letters To The Editor
over 400 words
will not be published.**



MERRY CHRISTMAS

*Wishing
All Our Customers
a Great Holiday*
J&S Salvage, Inc.
301-678-6806

I love Christmas! I get to see my family that lives far away from me and I am very grateful. I love when it's snowing. On Christmas Eve we made cookies and get a carrot out for the Reindeer. We also have the reindeer food that you sprinkle on the yard. Then I go to bed. In the morning I go down the stairs to see all the presents and I am very excited to see what is in the presents.

Ava Pindell
3rd grade, Hancock

On Christmas morning I wake up and get a warm sweater and pants on to go look for my Elf on the Shelf and drink my hot coco. Then my parents make breakfast and wake up my brother. Next we all open the presents under the 3 Christmas trees. My mom takes pictures of me and my brother. After that the family and I go out and make a snowman if it snows. I love to celebrate Jesus' birthday with my family!

Anna Stetsyuk
3rd grade, Hancock

Covers to seal cold.
Hums from us humans.
Raining snow from the sky.
Issues causing school delays.

Snowmen being built.
Times for Christmas breaks.

More blankets to cover.
As the snow covers water the fun begins.

Snowmen fight while they melt sadly.

Indygo Ward
3rd grade, Hancock

Christmas tree
Hot chocolate
Reindeer
Ice skating
Snow
Toys
Many presents
Act nice and help
Santa

Charles Stambaugh
3rd grade, Hancock

**NO PAPER WILL
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Merry Christmas

From All the Employees at
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What I am looking forward to is playing in the snow. I like to have snowball fights with my family. Also what I am looking forward to is sitting at the tree and opening gifts. I like checking my stockings to see what I got. On Christmas I am looking forward to seeing my cousins. Me and my cousins decorate cookies. Finally what I am looking forward to is having snowball fights and making a snowman and sometimes my family watches a movie and we play games and I like eating popcorn and cookies. My mom likes to make Christmas crafts.

Shayla Curry
4th grade, Hancock

A couple of things I'm looking forward to. One thing I love is snow. I love snow because of 1 waking up to snow and 2 scraping ice off the driveway. Another thing I'm looking forward to is baking. I love baking cookies. We bake ornaments made of cinnamon and glue, also they are fun to make. In addition I'm looking forward to gifts. I love receiving gifts and hiding gifts. It's like hide and seek with gifts. Finally, I'm looking forward to watching movies. I love movie's because of the snacks. My favorites are number 3 popcorn number 2 sour patch kids number 1 muddy buddies.

Sawyer Shoemaker
4th grade, Hancock

I love Winter because I like jumping on the trampoline with my dog in the Snow. When it snows I climb trees and walk on my frozen pond. Also winter is a day to stay home and be with your family.

Stephen Payne
4th grade, Hancock

I enjoy Christmas because of the noise like the sound of jingle bells and Christmas music and all that jolly ho ho hoing. I love the things you can do too.like building a snowman or baking Christmas cookies for Santa.I also like the games that you can play like sledding or a snowball fight or building a snow Fort and last but not least I enjoy Christmas because of the decorations like the tree and what makes the tree more fun is decorating it with my family, and the lights make it more fun because they light up the night.

Rezley
4th grade, Hancock

I love winter because of plowing. I love the sound and it gives me a workout. I also love winter because snowball I like hitting people in the chest. I like winter because I get to play with my family, and have hot chocolate. Finally I like winter because my dog linden loves to barrel roll in the snow and she gets an exercise.

Easton Exline
4th grade, Hancock

What Harmony fore tells

Once upon a midnight dreary while I pondered weak and weary. Over many quaint and curious volume of forgotten lore. But suddenly there came a tapping as someone gently rapping above me on the rooftop. But at morn noon and twilight dim Santa it's him but there I shouted and then I doubted. I hear the mellow bells the golden bells what a world of happiness harmony foretells. Through the balmy air of night how they ring out there delight from the molten golden note there all in tune. Hear I wake up all in a fright and it's Christmas morning I hear. But now I see presents and shout out with glee whoopie, here I open the presents it's now time for tea.

Jameson Lysczek
4th grade, Hancock

Christmas

I'm excited for Christmas because I get to help my family set up the Christmas lights. I also like setting up the Christmas tree and eating cookies. I can't wait for Christmas because I get to open presents and I get to open one present on Christmas Eve. I like Christmas the most because I like to drink hot chocolate and eat my moms cookies. On Christmas I open my stocking first because I always get candy inside of it.

Leland Bender
4th grade, Hancock

**Perfect Christmas
What makes a perfect
Christmas ?**

First I love decorating with my family and putting up the lights is fun. Red, green and white glowing lights that catch Santa's eyes. It's not Christmas without playing in the snow. Snowball fights and building snowmen are my two favorite things. My elf on the shelf is named Holly. Holly tells Santa if I'm good or bad. She also like hide and seek in the mornings. Finally I love seeing my family's faces when they open their presents. That's what makes my perfect Christmas.

McKenzie Morris
4th grade, Hancock

Christmas Birthday

My birthday is in the same month as Christmas. First we put up the tree then we decorate the tree. Also we put out decorations. Next we put out the elf. After that we go sledding then we gather all of the gifts we got for people and take to them. My favorite part of the day is when we put matching pajamas on and take pictures. Next we do my favorite part and then we open presents and also we are in pajamas. And that is the last thing we do on a Christmas Day.

Mya Weller
4th grade, Hancock

Winter is my favorite season. One reason I like winter is because of the snow. I can build a snowman and fort with my brother. I also like to have snowball fights. Getting hit is a lot of fun. My favorite part about winter is I like to spend time with my family. We play games together. These are all my favorite winter things.

Nolan Root
4th grade, Hancock

Christmas Traditions

My family has a lot of Christmas traditions. One Christmas tradition is baking Christmas cookies with my mom. Another Christmas tradition is going to my uncles house on Christmas Eve to have dinner. A third tradition is having Christmas dinner at my house and open presents at my house. That's what makes Christmas traditions the BEST!!!

Weston Smith
4th grade, Hancock

Winter

Winter, you know Christmas, New Year's and snow. My favorite part of winter is New Year's Eve because my Christmas presents are not old and I am pretty used to them. I also like watching the ball drop. Christmas I love to spend time with others and opening presents. Snow I love to build things,sled and throw snow.

Wyatt Las Dulce
4th grade, Hancock

Christmas is my favorite

I like to hang out with my cousins and I like to hang out with my parents to play games. I also like to watch movies and snuggle with my mom and dad and my to sisters. I like to help my parents decorate my Christmas tree and I like to make cookies with my mom. I can go to my cousin house to hang out with my whole family. I also like Christmas because i can have snowy weather and i like to make a snowman or do a snowball fight. I like to look at Christmas lights in Hagerstown I like to look at my house and cousin house.

Aubrey Bishop
4th grade, Hancock

Winter

Winter is my favorite season. I love winter because you can get a nice Christmas tree and decorate it with pretty and sentimental ornaments. And also why winter is my favorite season because Santa can bring you hot chocolate and presents. Winter is a good season because you can have snowball fights. You can make snowmen out of snow. That's why I like winter.

Branten Hixon
4th grade, Hancock

Winter weather

Winter is my favorite time of the year. I like snow because me and my uncle go snowball fighting. But he always wins then I get my cousins and then we win.I always go to see lights, me and my mom and my two sisters love to put up the lights all around the house. I like to decorate. Putting the ornaments on the tree is fun. But my favorite part is putting the elf up. I love to spend time with my family. I love to get gifts and give them. But my cousins are so fun for building forts in the snow I love spending time with my family.

Bryant Yonker
4th grade, Hancock

**Letters To The Editor
over 400 words
will not be published.**

I love winter because I get to go to my aunt's, put up the tree, make cookies and watch Christmas movies. The first reason I love winter is because I get to go to my aunts. The reason I like going to my aunts is because I love seeing my cousins and their house always smells like chocolate chip cookies. Another reason I love winter is that I get to put up the tree. The reason I like putting up the tree is because its pretty and I love putting the star on. Another reason I love winter is because I get to make cookies. I love making cookies because they smell amazing. The final reason I love winter is because I get to watch Christmas movies. I love watching Christmas movies because I get too spend time with my family. Those are all the reasons I love winter.

Destiny Triggs
4th grade, Hancock

My favorite holiday is Christmas. First I like Christmas because I can pick a tree and decorate the tree. Claiming the latter is my favorite. Second I like Christmas because I can see family and eat dinner with them. Eating dinner with them is my favorite because the jokes they make. Third I really like Christmas because I get presents and I give presents. Getting toys is my favorite. Finally I like Christmas because I can sled and have snowball fights. It's fun to hit somebody with snowballs.

Emmett Quackenbos
4th grade, Hancock

A white Christmas

My family has a lot of Christmas traditions. One of my favorite traditions is decorating the Christmas tree. But I have a lot of fun traditions like ugly Christmas sweaters, baking cookies and so much more! Also I love to give gifts and to open them. I also love doing stuff with my family like snowball fights and building snowmen. We also go sledding or ice skating! We also do tree lights which are really fun! Thats all my traditions I do on Christmas.

Chloe Iseminger
4th grade, Hancock

**My favorite holiday
is Christmas**

I like Christmas because you get to have hot chocolate. Also I dress up my cat Pepper as an elf. I like Christmas because I can watch TV. I can watch Unkitty and SpongeBob. I make cookies. I love Christmas because my birthday is a week before Christmas. I also go sledding and I draw trees. I like Christmas because I get to see my family. Also we give gifts and open gifts. That is why I love Christmas.

Angellina Skidmore
4th grade, Hancock

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Hancock Lioness Lions Club
Wishes a Very
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
To The Community

We're On a roll!

We had a great year and we owe it all to you.
Safe travels and many good times
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Merry Christmas
BOB'S TIRE SERVICE

Here Comes Santa Claus!

Another Christmas is rolling in, and we hope it delivers everything on your wish list!

Thanks for being an important part of our year. We wish you all the best this holiday season and in the coming year.

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Things I do on Christmas

I like to look at the lights with my mom and the rest of the family. I like to watch Home Alone with my family. We watch the Nut Job. The people that are in the band, including me, will probably perform a song called Christmas Medley. I can't wait until Christmas because I will get to see my friends and family. I wonder what I will get for Christmas. I go see my dad and spend the night, and play the Play Station and play Jurassic World and Hot Pursuit. I love walking through the Christmas lights with my mom.

Landon Truax
5th grade, Hancock

My family tradition

Hello! Do you have a family tradition? I sure do, and this is what I'll be talking about. I usually go to my Nin and Paps for Christmas, but we may go to my uncles this year, which I'm excited about! I have 2 elfs on the shelves, Buddy & Erin. They like to cause a lot of mischief when my Nin comes around. We usually eat mashed potatoes, turkey, vegetables, green beans and mac and cheese. The food is yum! I'm excited for Christmas, are you?

Sophia Chaney
5th grade, Hancock

What I'm excited for on Christmas

What are you excited about on Christmas Day? Here's what I'm excited about. What I'm really excited about is my little brother's first Christmas. He will be 10 months old on Christmas. Even though he won't understand much I'm still excited. When it snowed the first time I showed him and he loved it. Another thing I'm excited about is when we're decorating it's the best. I already decorated my entire room but all my sister has in her room is just a plastic candy cane. My brother already tried to eat the tree. We're still not done decorating though!

Cara Penwell
5th grade, Hancock

Christmas fun

This is how I celebrate my Christmas. First I make cookies and get milk to put out for Santa and then I go outside and play in the snow and get glitter too put in the snow and it is beautiful. After I'm done playing I go back inside and put up the stockings and our elf comes and makes a mess while I am sleeping and I get up the next morning and there is a big mess and there's presents everywhere and I open the presents and we have to go to my relatives house.

Aubrie
5th grade, Hancock

I like winter weather because it brings snow, me and my dog Nox go outside and play in the snow. I throw snowballs at him and he tries to dodge the snowballs. I also like winter weather because I get to wear comfy clothes. I get to wear sweat pants and sweat shirts. Another reason I like winter weather is because I get to spend time with my family. We have sleepovers with my nan. We watch Christmas movies together. Finally I like winter weather because my family gives to people. My family gives blankets, jackets and other things to families that can't afford that stuff to keep them warm in the winter.

Parker McCusker
4th grade, Hancock

On Christmas day I'm looking forward to opening stockings first thing in the morning. After that we open gifts around the Christmas tree. Along with that I'm looking forward to making hot cocoa for my family. Also we all go to my nana's house to open more gifts and we stay for the rest of the day and eat Christmas dinner as well so i am really looking forward to that. Another thing I'm looking forward to, on Christmas morning we make orange and cinnamon rolls for breakfast, they are sooo good. Finally one more thing I am looking forward to is making snow cones and pouring Hershey's strawberry syrup on top.

Llana Heckert
4th grade, Hancock

I love Christmas because of opening and giving gifts additionally because I can get new toys and I hope I get new stranger things toys. Secondly I love Christmas because of Santa he and his elf's they watch you and I think that is cool I hope this year I get stranger things toys from Santa. also I love Christmas because of the elf's I don't have one but I love making them for my class and this year I'm making a new one for my class. Finally I love Christmas because I like to make cookies because it is SO COOL to see the cookies gone because Santa he eats them all I also love do decorate the cookies with sprinkles icing and more.

Kinley Shank
4th grade, Hancock

Winter weather

I like winter weather because I can go snowboarding and I like to hit big jumps that I make. And I like to race my cousin when I am on a snowboard and he is on a sled. I also like to drive in the snow and to do donuts drifting and doing burnouts. Watching movies is my favorite because I get to stay up late and drink hot chocolate. And being warm inside and playing games.

Connor Sexton
4th grade, Hancock

I am looking forward to seeing my elf! Because our elf makes a lot of BIG!! messes and he gets my family gifts! Another thing I am looking forward to is the snow! Because me and my brother have BIG!! snowball fights and I love seeing the snow on the ground because it looks so cool! I am also looking forward to baking cookies with my family! Because I love to decorate them and eat them and they are so fun to make! Finally I am looking forward to hanging out with my family! Because it is my dog's first Christmas and she can get treats and goodie bags!

Emma Hill
4th grade, Hancock

I love winter because I love hot cocoa. Also I love snowboarding and ramping. I love snowball fights and snow angels because they are fun to play and also fun to make. Finally I love winter because of Santa. Because he gives presents. This is why I love winter weather.

Colton Bivens
4th grade, Hancock

It's that time of the year Christmas is the best time of the year and we do family traditions. One of them is baking. We bake cookies and brownies. My favorites are cookies. Another family tradition is we watch Christmas movies and regular movies. My favorite are Christmas movies. Additionally our family traditions are snow ball fights and snowmen. I like snowball fights because I get to throw them at my sister. Our last family tradition is playing board games with my family and family members that come.

Carli Howard
4th grade, Hancock

I like winter weather because of sledding. Whenever we ride, I go down our hill fast. I like winter weather because of snow. Snowball fights are the best because we make it fun. I like winter weather because of my clothes. Snow boots make the best sound when you step in the snow. I like winter weather because of my family. My PS4 is the best for my family.

Caleb Schriever
4th grade, Hancock

I love Christmas because I get to decorate my Christmas tree! Me and my family love all of the different ornaments on the tree! Christmas in addition makes me think of cookies! So me and my mom make cookies for us and of course Santa! I love Christmas in general but additionally I love the weather! I love the snow! And i love trying to catch snowflakes! And finally! I love outdoor life in the winter. For example I love going over to my uncles house to go sledding down a massive hill with my mom and dad! And I love jumping on my snowy trampoline and trying not to fall!

Brooklyn Fischer
4th grade, Hancock

I love Christmas because I play in the snow. Maybe with my dog Meatball he won't eat the snow but I know I eat snow. Also I love it because I can play songs like Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer and other songs. Another reason why I like Christmas is that I can get lots of gifts like minecraft stuff and pajamas and toys. Finally I love Christmas because I can eat dessert.

Alana Truax
4th grade, Hancock



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

We are so grateful for our good friends and customers like you! Thank you for making our year so special!

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Happy Holidays & Happy New Year

To Our Patrons, Friends and Family

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Santa will be here before you know it. As we count down the minutes until his arrival, we'd just like to say thanks to all of our customers and wish them a very fine year ahead.

DAWSON'S HOME CENTER

Letters To The Editor over 400 words will not be published.



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you every
happiness
this holiday
season and
throughout
the coming year.

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*Wishing You All the
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Merry Christmas*



Morning, noon and night, we hope it's filled with friendship, love and light!
It's the loyal support of this community that has kept our business growing,
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Thank you for everything, and best wishes for a happy and healthy year.



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Family time on Christmas
I can't wait in 25 days it's Christmas. The Christmas countdown is amazing, it's so cool. Stuff me and my family do over Christmas is set up our tree and then we get to decorate the tree. It's so much fun. My favorite thing to do on Christmas is make a gingerbread house. It's amazing. Another thing we do is go to see Christmas lights I see so many cool lights. Me and my family love opening presents I get so much cool stuff. I love spending time with my family on Christmas we have so much fun.

Decklynn Bird
5th grade, Hancock

Matthew's wonderland fun
What I like about Christmas is watching movies. And the Christmas tree because I like putting ornaments on the tree. I like snow because I can make snowmen. Also I like gingerbread houses because they taste good and it's fun to build. I like my elf because it's fun to find him everyday. I like Santa because he gives us gifts and he made this holiday. Me and my family love opening gifts together and then we watch movies. I also like to look for my Elf because it's like a fun game. Merry Christmas.

Matthew Bivens
5th grade, Hancock

My fun family traditions
Christmas is my favorite time of the year. I love all of my family traditions. Every year we get a Christmas tree. Where we go always has hot chocolate and cookies, they are great. Every year my cousins come over and spend the night. We always watch lots of Christmas movies and make Christmas crafts and food. My family and I decorate with Christmas music playing. That's always fun. We have an elf named Sparkly blue. He is so ornery, but we love him. He has a pet stuffed dog. Lastly, we buy and make presents for each other.

Kyleigh Boyer
5th grade, Hancock

My family at Christmas
Hey guys and girls, do you want to see what I do at Christmas? Read to find out. So first I am going to shop for my family. I have a mom, dad, sister and a dog. Me and my dad go shopping for my mom and sister. Me and my sister go shopping for my mom and dad and we all go shopping for my dog. Next we have to put up the tree. We have an artificial tree so we do not have to go tree shopping. Me and my family have a great time at Christmas.

Bentley Fleegle
5th grade, Hancock

Christmas time
Christmas is a wonderful time of the year and people can disagree or agree. I like to put the ornaments on the tree, be with family, opening presents, etc. But really I just like to sleep during Christmas mornings because everyone wakes up late! But one day I woke up at 12 a.m. I saw my Dad! Putting my presents under the tree! And I said "Hey, only Santa does that." In my mind, of course. I went back to sleep angry. But I got a lot of presents so I'm not mad.

Trinity Golden
5th grade, Hancock

All about my Christmas
What's your favorite thing about Christmas? Well here's some of my favorites. One of my favorite things is going to look at Christmas lights with my family. Also across the street from my house, there are so many Christmas lights. Me and my little siblings like to look out the window at them. We love to decorate the house. It's so much fun. I love their faces when they see all the lights. They are so cute. So what would you say your favorite thing about Christmas is? I hope you have a good Christmas this year, enjoy your presents.

Terelyn Lady
5th grade, Hancock

A boys Christmas
Family time, presents, stories...These are some of the things that happen in the Christmas season. Most of my Christmas I don't ask for much but this year I have 22 things on my Christmas list. My family's traditions are to decorate the tree, make cookies and eat too many of them, watch as many movies on Christmas Eve as I can, make gingerbread houses and play in the snow. And on Christmas open presents. Christmas is the best time to be with family and to have fun. Well that's all, Merry Christmas!

Aiden Curry
5th grade, Hancock

Elf on the Shelf
Christmas is a wonderful time of the year. Every December my elf comes. Last year he did some wild things like hanging from my fan or when he got into a game on the tv and made his own mini car. Or in the Christmas tree, he's mischievous but fun. This year he is leaving, replacing himself with a Christmas gnome which is cool, but I might not ever see my original elf again. He's done a lot for me so I think I will write him a goodbye letter. I wonder what the gnome will do this year?

Amalea Marro
5th grade, Hancock

Playing in the snow
Playing in the snow is so much fun. You can go sledding, you can play with your family and friends, you can build snowmen, snow angels and more. We go sledding when there is ice and snow on the ground. We build ramps built out of snow and ice. We went down a hill and hit the ramp. It is so much fun. We build snowmen and snow angels and we have snow wars. We do competitions like who made the best snowman and best snow angels.

Brayden Reed
5th grade, Hancock

Christmas spirit
Kids think Christmas is about presents, they're right and they're wrong. It is also about giving and spending time with the people you love. Spending time and giving is amazing. It is a good way to make people feel loved. It is also a good way for you to feel good too. So you can say Christmas is the most wonderful time of the year to give. So always remember Christmas is about giving, spending time with the ones you love and for the "kid's present" but giving is always appreciated.

Gabriel Walker
5th grade, Hancock

Hello Christmas
Which one would you pick: Halloween or Christmas? I'll probably say both but Christmas is a little bit better because of presents. Do you love the fun things in Christmas, let's say going to the car and looking at the Christmas lights, your elf is coming to your house. Snowboarding with your sister and making gingerbread houses are fun. Do you love your family to make a fire in the fireplace and put ornaments on the Christmas tree? When Christmas is over you get sad but hey you got a present.

Mac Mellott
5th grade, Hancock

Christmas spirit
Tree spirit - Every year a tree comes to a house to celebrate the Christmas spirit to all. The tree lets the people decorate it to make them have the Christmas spirit.
Present spirit - Presents are delivered to the people who are nice. The presents are given to show how kind the people are. And the people who get presents are grateful!
Snow spirit - The snow brings joy to the little children. Snow lets children play by throwing snowballs, making a snowman and snow angels. All these three spirits are the reason we have Christmas today.

Zana Rose
5th grade, Hancock

Things that I do and love about Christmas
Do you like Christmas or Halloween more? If I had to choose one, Christmas. Last year we cut down a tree and we also got lots of presents. On Christmas Eve we have Christmas at my grandma's house and on Christmas we have Christmas at my house. I love candy canes, sledding and building snow forts. We also get lots of snow on Christmas. I love when it's time to open presents and see what I get. About 50% of my presents are things that weren't on my Christmas list but the other 50% is usually on my list.

Gracelynn Verno
5th grade, Hancock

The one school I go to is Hancock Elementary. I think my school is awesome. I think the teachers there are cool and fun. Last year someone tried to close down the high school so the kids there would go to Clear Spring school and the elementary school kids go over to the high school. So the school made kids there write a letter about how we think they should not close down the high school. Just the power of our writing made them think that they shouldn't close down the school. I'm from the awesome school bye.

Annabell Sowers
5th grade, Hancock

What I'm excited for Christmas
I'm excited to hang out with my family and open our gifts together and drink hot chocolate. I can't wait to make walls out of snow and have a snowball fight. We will go to our cousin's house and celebrate Christmas. The best thing about Christmas for me is hanging out with family, not presents. I'm excited to also hangout with my grandparents and have fun. There is one present that I'm excited about which is my Pokémon cards to add to my collection.

Kaiden Yost
5th grade, Hancock

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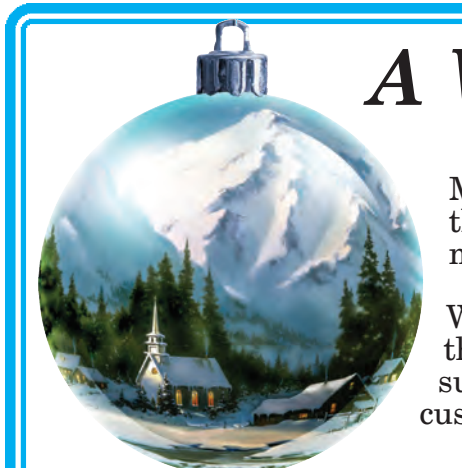


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My Christmas 2021

Last Christmas I got lots of gifts they were a cat toy and Pizza Hut. I also got LOL dolls and snow boots and snow on Christmas. Christmas sometimes does not have snow. Also I got new friends and Christmas cookies with red and green icing. Also I got to go to my aunts house on Christmas. I got a Christmas tree too. Also I got to see most of my family. I got good food from my family's house. They made cookies and ham and cheese sandwiches. They also made ham and I got a hug from my family.

Lexi Bennett
5th grade, Hancock

How much fun it is to have two Christmases

It is so much fun to have two Christmases. Not many people have two Christmases and that's not a bad thing. I get lots of gifts and so many Christmas dinners. I have one of my Christmases on Christmas Eve and the other on Christmas Day. I have only had good gifts and not even including Grandparents. Each side of the family gives me different things. I don't prefer one side to the other side of the family. I like them both. Every year I get almost exactly what I want and I'm very grateful about it.

Kai Clark
5th grade, Hancock

Special Christmas

At last it is Christmas time, the most wonderful time of the year. Today I will share with you some of my favorite things to do around the holidays. First I will tell you some of my favorite traditions. 1. Is setting up the Christmas tree and watching Christmas movies. 2. Going to this house that has a lot of lights and great Christmas songs to listen to. 3. Going to the church candlelight service. Now if you thought that was all the stuff we do around the holiday you are wrong. Merry Christmas to all.

Emma Cowger
5th grade, Hancock

When I woke up one morning the elves finally came back and then I realized that is was December 1st! screamed, "The evles are back!" My mom is never excited when they come back. Why? Well it was close to Christmas and they went through my moms wallet and gave us money my mom wasn't pleased. Another time they used my nail polish and painted my dad's toes. I wouldn't even want to come anywhere near my dad's feet. I'm not going to use that nail polish any time soon. They even drew on our yearbook photo!

Kaylee Phillips
5th grade, Hancock

2021 Christmas

Last year, I had just moved just outside of Hancock. August 12th in 2023 will make it 2 years since I moved in. As time went on, Christmas was closer and closer until it was Christmtas Day. I woke up (without thinking) and then I realized it was Christmas. I ran upstairs to wake up my mom and dad. I woke them up and we went downstairs woke up my older sister and went into the living room and it was like a mountain of presents. My mom and dad even got presents for my dog. It was so fun.

Abby Squires
5th grade, Hancock

Christmas is awesome

How Christmas is awesome is that my reindeer moves every December. I love finding Dasher my reindeer. He does funny things like dressing up in what I give him to wear. Also on Christmas, my dad dresses up like a stranger and I love it when he does that. Just because my dog KC keeps attacking my dad and knocking him over and I always laugh. I also love presents. I got a really cute hamster two years ago and my brother got a hamster two weeks after I got my hamster on Christmas Day.

Emma Diehl
5th grade, Hancock

The story of Mary

“What just happened?” You’re probably wondering “what’s happening?” Well let me take it back to the start. It was a summer morning and I had been outside playing, but I saw a glow coming from the woods, so I crept in. I saw a Christmas tree, it had a hole so I crawled through. When I got through I started walking. I heard voices and then as I turned around I saw weird creatures. Then something grabbed me...I fainted and woke up in my room? It was not a dream though...I’m covered in snow from head to toe.

Caelyn Hohn
5th grade, Hancock

Hancock Christmas spirit

Christmas is about God's birthday. It is not about getting presents and opening presents, it is a holiday that we celebrate because his birthday is very important because he made us and that was the day he was born and everyone celebrates their birthday so we should celebrate God's birthday too. Last year for Christmas I got lots of clothes and toy tractors from my parents and grandparents. My uncle got me a new hat and a fish file knife and my other grandparents got me a bunch of clothes and a BB gun.

Brantley Norris
5th grade, Hancock

My Christmas story

One of the things I look forward to on Christmas is when we go to my grandparents house. We spend hours there just giving out gifts and having family time. Then when my family gets home we have a great time going out in the snow having snowball fights. And then we come in and drink hot chocolate until our fingers are warm. Then we give out gifts and play a little game of Uno. Then we go back to my grandparents for dinner and that's how my Christmas Day goes.

Brody Norris
5th grade, Hancock

What I like about Christmas

What I like about Christmas is snow I love snow. It is so fun to play in also snowball fights I love them too because they are so fun and you get to play with friends and family. Which leads me to the next thing that I love most about Christmas is spending time with my family and friends because they are always there for me and I love them. Another thing is the Christmas lights because they get me in a Christmas mood. The last thing I like about Christmas is the songs. I like how they sound.

Isabella Quackenbos
5th grade, Hancock

What I hope I get for Christmas

One thing I want for Christmas is a paper brick maker. Because at my house we do a lot of camp fires. So I want to make it to start the camp fires. And make it faster to start. The next thing is paint markers or alcohol markers. Because I want to be a semi good artist. I am going to try to but it is very hard to be an artist. I would like a lot of newspaper for the paper brick maker. But I do not care if I get nothing because I got my mom and dad.

Colton Appel
5th grade, Hancock

All I want for Christmas is

What I want for Christmas is that I need a Riot shield and toy guns and a go kart and a scooter and rust ak and sar and a four wheeler and toy cars and boxing gloves, punching bag and a ski trip and a dog and another dog and one more dog just for good measures and sky landers and also a new pc and a new pair of kicks and cod points and mw2 and that's all I need for Christmas.

Riley Barnhart
5th grade, Hancock

Christmas

I like Christmas. It's not that you get presents, it celebrates God's birthday. So you can see family and friends. I want to say something that I got last year. I got my first big RC car and I was surprised so I played with it for a long time. I am grateful for a lot of things in my life but you should celebrate it because it celebrates God. Think about it, if nobody celebrates your birthday you wouldn't like that so celebrate it and be grateful.

Till
5th grade, Hancock

Christmas

One thing that me and my family do on Christmas is make cookies! My family and I pick out cookies that we would like to bake and eat! My favorite part of Christmas is secret Santa. My mom or dad will write down our names and put it in a hat and we pull names. This is really fun because it is a surprise because you don't know who is getting a present for you! We also do a Christmas countdown and we get a tiny gift each day of the countdown. This is fun while we wait!

Addison Yommer
5th grade, Hancock



C IS FOR THE CHRISTMAS CHILD
ON HIS LITTLE BED OF HAY

H IS FOR THE HEAVENLY HOST
WHO WORSHIPPED HIM THAT DAY

R IS FOR THE RAY OF LIGHT
FROM ONE BRIGHT STAR ABOVE

I IS FOR THE LOWLY INN
SO FULL OF JOY AND LOVE

S IS FOR THE SHEPHERDS
KNEELING HUMBLY IN PRAYER

T IS FOR THE TRAVELERS
WITH GIFTS SO GREAT AND RARE

M IS FOR THE MOTHER,
GENTLE MARY, FULL OF GRACE

A IS FOR THE AWE AND PRIDE
ON BLESSED JOSEPH'S FACE

S IS FOR THE ANGEL'S SONG—
REJOICING IN THE ONE
WHO CAME TO BE
GOD'S GIFT OF LOVE,
THE FATHER'S ONLY SON





Classified Ads

Classified Ads - 20 cents per word first week, 13 cents per word for the same ad in each issue thereafter. Minimum charge \$1.00. An additional charge of a \$1.00 for each ad not paid for when placed.

FOR SALE

DOUBLE Roll Coupon Tickets \$10.24 for sale at The Morgan Messenger and The Hancock News offices. pd1/1- tfmh

YARD sale signs now available at The Morgan Messenger and The Hancock News offices. Also many other signs including Posted, No Trespassing and No Hunting. 1/1- tfmh

STRAW & hay, Sq. bales \$4.00, roll bales \$35.00, barn kept. 304-258-0584. 11/9- tfmh

ANIMALS

LEONA'S Pet Grooming, Boarding and Bath. 304-258-1268. 1/1- tfmh

WANTED

BUYING USED CLOTHING: Carhartt Jackets/Pants, Band/Harley/NASCAR Tees. 304-820-4884. 11/30-4mh

RENTALS

TWO bedroom house, 12528 Seavolt Rd., Hancock, call 301-678-6448. \$600 month plus electric and fuel. pd12/21-2mh

SERVICES

AUCTIONEER - Appraiser. Ronnie R. Zimmerman, 301-678-6821 or 301-331-6821. MD - PA & WV. 1/7- tfh

APPLIANCES - Sales & service for the Tri-State Area. Gordon's Garage & Appliance. Needmore, Pa. 717-573-2590. Prompt & reasonable. 11/14- tfh

GLEN Smith Septic Pumping, Tri-State Area. MD. License 094, P.A. DET 99027. 301-678-5233. 4/8- tfmh

WILL purchase and pick up your scrap vehicles. Please call 301-739-7159 or 301-797-8358 to receive a quote. 8/29- tfmh

BEDDOW'S Septic Service, Inc. 304-258-1527 or 304-671-1773. 10/3- tfh

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COACHING VACANCY
The Southern Fulton School District is seeking applications until the position is filled, for a **JUNIOR HIGH ASSISTANT BASEBALL COACH** for the 2022-2023 School Year
Contact MaryAnn Johnson in the district office for an application 717-294-2203.
Completed Applications and Clearances Should Be Returned To:
Kent Hendershot, Athletic Director
Southern Fulton School District
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Warfordsburg, PA 17267

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Cindy - Roy's Girls - Betty's Boys

ARTICLES MAY BE EDITED

Articles submitted to *The Hancock News* may be edited for clarity, style and content and to conform to the newspaper's policies and protect against libel.

HOROSCOPES
December 25 - 31, 2022

CAPRICORN December 22-January 19 Have you been plotting a move, Capricorn? Make sure your real estate research is up-to-date and you're ready to take the plunge. This move may be a big one.	ARIES March 21-April 19 Cleaning and organizing can wait for another week, Aries. This week you should focus on having fun with your family and friends. Enjoy the respite from work.	CANCER June 22-July 22 You have been feeling less motivated of late, Cancer. That is likely due to the breakneck speed that you have been going for some time. Slow down and enjoy the break.	LIBRA September 23-October 22 Your thoughts this week are about setting goals for the future, Libra. Not that you haven't already been doing your share of planning, but now you're firming up those plans.
AQUARIUS January 20-February 18 Aquarius, perhaps you have made a few big purchases lately and feel like your budget has taken a hit? Add up receipts and you may find it's not as bad as you had thought.	TAURUS April 20-May 20 Taurus, work is on your brain, but it could be because you're wired to focus on getting things done. Work is important, but remember to make time for other things as well.	LEO July 23-August 22 Leo, practicality is your middle name. The next few days you may be focused on whimsy and imagination. It could be all the feelings the holidays are bringing up.	SCORPIO October 23-November 21 Scorpio, issues with your professional life may be on your mind. It could be time to make a major change in the days to come. Are you ready to move in a new direction?
PISCES February 19-March 20 This is a good time for a change of perspective, Pisces. Maybe you have been looking at things all the wrong way. Switch things up.	GEMINI May 21-June 21 Your bank account may not be as healthy as it could be, Gemini. Tuck those credit cards away and cut back on purchases for the time being to set things straight.	VIRGO August 23-September 22 Planetary energies could be affecting those around you and their reception to your ideas, Virgo. Remain patient that things will tip in your favor after some time has passed.	SAGITTARIUS November 22-December 21 New responsibilities have left little time to spend with your significant other, Sagittarius. Carve out moments to snuggle if you cannot get out to a romantic meal or movie.

FOR ENTERTAINMENT PURPOSES ONLY

CHRISTMAS WORD SEARCH

W	R	O	L	J	O	Y	A	D	I	L	O	H	N	E	L	T	J	S	S
E	R	K	R	G	D	T	K	S	M	S	T	O	M	R	Y	K	V	L	Y
S	R	B	H	V	S	W	A	N	H	J	I	N	E	S	V	H	O	E	T
A	V	D	A	A	C	M	J	O	M	T	G	I	E	E	L	R	I	C	G
E	F	O	O	D	T	D	P	N	A	D	N	N	U	M	A	W	E	H	F
W	M	R	B	S	D	P	U	C	E	D	C	O	C	C	A	L	R	A	N
P	N	H	I	H	I	J	A	K	E	E	H	J	Y	N	E	N	W	J	D
L	E	R	R	N	V	V	U	E	G	R	R	W	U	B	H	H	R	A	N
R	H	D	G	E	U	H	R	A	M	I	I	G	R	P	B	I	S	O	L
C	S	E	R	O	T	S	T	I	I	U	S	A	R	E	R	K	M	O	J
P	S	U	S	E	J	H	D	E	L	B	T	K	E	E	A	J	A	O	A
J	Y	L	T	O	E	N	C	I	B	I	I	Y	D	E	V	T	A	G	K
V	U	B	I	R	I	Y	S	O	O	A	A	E	V	Y	J	E	H	J	J
U	L	C	I	G	G	T	W	N	O	I	N	D	T	U	B	V	U	L	J
C	J	N	H	L	E	V	E	U	K	K	Y	D	T	L	R	E	E	N	W
D	G	T	R	M	R	W	V	G	P	L	I	C	H	E	J	S	K	E	S
J	W	J	F	F	C	Y	B	S	I	G	O	E	S	T	N	A	S	J	A
H	L	O	C	D	E	C	E	M	B	E	R	A	S	I	A	O	K	C	L
H	I	C	I	J	C	C	A	U	S	O	H	W	T	D	P	R	R	U	K
I	Y	E	R	U	N	F	V	D	N	P	R	E	S	E	N	T	S	F	R

CAROLS
CELEBRATION
CHRISTIAN
CHRISTMAS
COOKIES
DECEMBER

EVE
EVERGREEN
FAMILY
GATHERING
HOLIDAY
JESUS

LIST
MIDNIGHT
ORNAMENT
PRESENTS
REINDEER
ROAST

SHOPPING
STORES
TINSEL
VACATION
WREATH
YULETIDE



PUBLIC NOTICES

David A. Castro, Esquire
1206 Saint Paul Street
Baltimore, MD 21202
**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS**

Estate No. 79723
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Glenn Garfield Ghee.

Notice is given that Leah G. Littlefield, 5617 Belle Vista Ave., Baltimore, MD 21206 was on November 21, 2022 appointed personal representative of the estate of Glenn Garfield Ghee who died on October 5, 2022 without a will. Further information can be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills or by contacting the personal representative or the attorney.

All persons having any objection to the appointment shall file their objections with the Register of Wills on or before the 21st day of May, 2023.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representative or file it with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned on or before the earlier of the following dates:

(1) Six months from the date of the decedent's death, except if the decedent died before October 1, 1992, nine months from the date of the decedent's death; or

(2) Two months after the personal representative mails or otherwise delivers to the creditor a copy of this published notice or other written notice, notifying the creditor that the claim will be barred unless the creditor presents the claims within two months from the mailing or other delivery of the notice. A claim not presented or filed on or before that date, or any extension provided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be obtained from the Register of Wills.

Leah G. Littlefield
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Jason A. Malott,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-30-3th

Bonnie A. Winders, Esq.
223 N. Prospect Street, Suite 301
Hagerstown, MD 21740
**SMALL ESTATE
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS**

Estate No. 79763
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Betty Jean Payne.

Notice is given that Lana E. Pittenger, 16126 Shaffer Road, Sharpsburg, MD 21782 was on December 8, 2022 appointed personal representative of the small estate of Betty Jean Payne who died on August 10, 2022 with a will.

Further information can be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills or by contacting the personal representative or the attorney.

All persons having any objection to the appointment shall file their objections with the Register of Wills within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. All persons having an objection to the probate of the will shall file their objections with the Register of Wills within six months after the date of publication of this notice.

All persons having claims against the decedent must serve their claims on the undersigned personal representative or file them with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned on or before the earlier of the following dates:

(1) Six months from the date of the decedent's death, except if the decedent died before October 1, 1992, nine months from the date of the decedent's death; or

(2) Thirty days after the personal representative mails or otherwise delivers to the creditor a copy of this published notice or other written notice, notifying the creditor that the claims will be barred unless the creditor presents the claim within thirty days from the mailing or other delivery of the notice. Any claim not served or filed within that time, or any extension provided by law, is unenforceable thereafter.

Lana E. Pittenger
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd12-21-1thn

**SMALL ESTATE
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS**

Estate No. 79544
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Dennis Leo Crosby.

Notice is given that Timothy Crosby, 516 Twin Point Cove Rd., Cambridge, MD 21613 was on December 13, 2022 appointed personal representative of the small estate of Dennis Leo Crosby who died on September 13, 2022 with a will.

Further information can be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills or by contacting the personal representative or the attorney.

All persons having any objection to the appointment shall file their objections with the Register of Wills within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. All persons having an objection to the probate of the will shall file their objections with the Register of Wills within six months after the date of publication of this notice.

All persons having claims against the decedent must serve their claims on the undersigned personal representative or file them with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned on or before the earlier of the following dates:

(1) Six months from the date of the decedent's death, except if the decedent died before October 1, 1992, nine months from the date of the decedent's death; or

(2) Thirty days after the personal representative mails or otherwise delivers to the creditor a copy of this published notice or other written notice, notifying the creditor that the claims will be barred unless the creditor presents the claim within thirty days from the mailing or other delivery of the notice. Any claim not served or filed within that time, or any extension provided by law, is unenforceable thereafter.

Timothy Crosby
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd12-21-1thn

**SMALL ESTATE
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS**

Estate No. 79764
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Sandra L. Spickler.

Notice is given that Robin Gilbert 19536 Lorriane Terrace, Hagerstown, MD 21742 and Jeffrey Spickler, 316 Chimney Stone Court, Hagerstown, MD 21740 were on December 14, 2022 appointed personal representative of the small estate of Sandra L. Spickler who died on November 30, 2022 with a will.

Further information can be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills or by contacting the personal representatives or the attorney.

All persons having any objection to the appointment shall file their objections with the Register of Wills within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. All persons having an objection to the probate of the will shall file their objections with the Register of Wills within six months after the date of publication of this notice.

All persons having claims against the decedent must serve their claims on the undersigned personal representative or file them with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned on or before the earlier of the following dates:

(1) Six months from the date of the decedent's death, except if the decedent died before October 1, 1992, nine months from the date of the decedent's death; or

(2) Thirty days after the personal representative mails or otherwise delivers to the creditor a copy of this published notice or other written notice, notifying the creditor that the claims will be barred unless the creditor presents the claim within thirty days from the mailing or other delivery of the notice. Any claim not served or filed within that time, or any extension provided by law, is unenforceable thereafter.

Robin Gilbert
Jeffrey Spickler
Personal Representatives
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd12-21-1thn

**SMALL ESTATE
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS**

Estate No. 79774
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF James Wesley Hare.

Notice is given that Rita Dorothea Hare, 4748 Casper Road, Hancock, MD 21750 was on December 14, 2022 appointed personal representative of the small estate of James Wesley Hare who died on November 4, 2022 with a will.

Further information can be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills or by contacting the personal representative or the attorney.

All persons having any objection to the appointment shall file their objections with the Register of Wills within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. All persons having an objection to the probate of the will shall file their objections with the Register of Wills within six months after the date of publication of this notice.

All persons having claims against the decedent must serve their claims on the undersigned personal representative or file them with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned on or before the earlier of the following dates:

(1) Six months from the date of the decedent's death, except if the decedent died before October 1, 1992, nine months from the date of the decedent's death; or

(2) Thirty days after the personal representative mails or otherwise delivers to the creditor a copy of this published notice or other written notice, notifying the creditor that the claims will be barred unless the creditor presents the claim within thirty days from the mailing or other delivery of the notice. Any claim not served or filed within that time, or any extension provided by law, is unenforceable thereafter.

Rita Dorothea Hare
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd12-21-1thn

**SMALL ESTATE
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS**

Estate No. 79765
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Joseph M. Rager.

Notice is given that Glenn Rager, P.O. Box 472, Clear Spring, MD 21722 was on December 8, 2022 appointed personal representative of the small estate of Joseph M. Rager who died on November 13, 2022 without a will.

Further information can be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills or by contacting the personal representative or the attorney.

All persons having any objection to the appointment shall file their objections with the Register of Wills within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. All persons having an objection to the probate of the will shall file their objections with the Register of Wills within six months after the date of publication of this notice.

All persons having claims against the decedent must serve their claims on the undersigned personal representative or file them with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned on or before the earlier of the following dates:

(1) Six months from the date of the decedent's death, except if the decedent died before October 1, 1992, nine months from the date of the decedent's death; or

(2) Thirty days after the personal representative mails or otherwise delivers to the creditor a copy of this published notice or other written notice, notifying the creditor that the claims will be barred unless the creditor presents the claim within thirty days from the mailing or other delivery of the notice. Any claim not served or filed within that time, or any extension provided by law, is unenforceable thereafter.

Glenn Rager
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd12-21-1thn

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NOTICE TO BIDDERS

**The Southern Fulton School District
Is Seeking Proposals For
Bus Contract #2 and the**

Extracurricular Transportation Contract

beginning with the 2023-2024 school year. Sealed bids will be received in the District Office until 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 10, 2023.

Bidding specifications and instructions may be obtained from the District Office at 717-294-2203.

The Board reserves the right to reject all or any parts of any bid.

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Hancock, MD 21750-1510

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Articles submitted to *The Hancock News* may be edited for clarity, style and content and to conform to the newspaper's policies and protect against libel.

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Take I-70 into Pennsylvania, Take Exit 168, Turn right onto 522 North, Bard's Auto Sales is 7 Miles on the left.

2022
Wednesday,
DECEMBER 21


75¢


The Hancock News

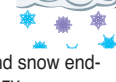
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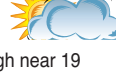
Hancock at a Glance


Weather

Wed. 12/21 42/27 
Mostly sunny with calm winds, 30% chance of snow Wednesday night.

Thurs. 12/22 38/38 
90% chance of rain and snow, light east winds.

Fri. 12/23 42/7 
90% chance of rain and snow ending around noon. Breezy.

Sat. 12/24 19/7 
Partly sunny with a high near 19 and a low around 7.

Sun. 12/25 22/8 
Mostly sunny with a high near 22. MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!

Letters to the Editor

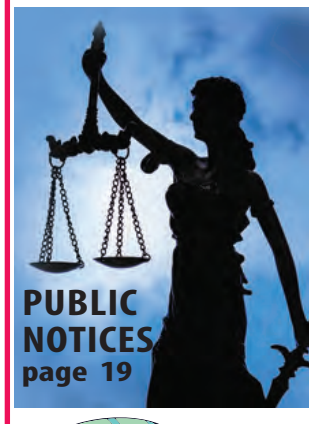
Letters to the editor are invited. They must be signed, typed and double-spaced. The writer must include a phone number and address for verification.

No more than two letters from any individual will be printed in a four-week period.

Letters are subject to editing. Letters longer than 400 words will not be published. Nor will letters that are libelous, too personal or not of general interest to the public.

Letters are a way for citizens to comment on current issues. They are not meant to provide anyone with a platform to write again and again about their philosophy, group or business.

Thank you notes and political endorsements are considered advertising. Form letters are often discarded.



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Keep in Touch

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Ice causes closures, delays

by Geoff Fox

Old Man Winter decided to show his handywork on Thursday, December 15, as an ice storm blew into the area, putting a coating of ice on everything.

The storm warranted the National Weather Service Baltimore/Washington D.C. office to issue an Ice Storm Warning for Washington County that morning at 9:42 a.m. and remained in effect until 10 p.m. that evening.

According to the warning, there was to be “significant” icing with accumulations ranging from a tenth of an inch to a quarter inch below 1,000 feet with a quarter to half an inch above 1,000 feet.

Sleet accumulations were to be around a coating to an inch, especially near the Maryland/Pennsylvania border.

Because of the pending weather, Washington County Public Schools issued a two-hour delay for schools on Wednesday night, December 14, but changed it in the morning to a full closure.

Southern Fulton School District also started with a two-hour delay on Wednesday night but changed it to “school closed” on Thursday morning.



An ice storm blew the area on Thursday, December 15, causing schools and businesses to close and travel a little on the slick side. While dangerous on the roads, the ice coated trees and leaves leaving shots like this around the area.

photo courtesy SandyJAKS Country Crossroads

A post on the district’s social media page said students would make up the missed day on Monday, February 20, 2023.

Hancock town officials had scheduled the monthly

town meeting and a public hearing for Thursday evening, but canceled both.

see **ICE STORM**
page 3

County offering free Christmas tree recycling at multiple locations



The Washington County Department of Solid Waste is offering free Christmas tree recycling to Washington County residents.

All lights, ornaments, and nails must be removed from the tree.

Trees will be accepted daily beginning Tuesday, December 27, through Tuesday, January 31, 2023.

Christmas Tree recycling locations:

—Forty West Landfill, one mile west of Huyett’s Crossroads off Route 40 on Earth Care Road (Monday-Saturday from 7 a.m.-3 p.m.)

—Greensburg Convenience Center, 13125 Bikle Road (Tuesday-Saturday)

—Hancock Convenience Center, 6502 Hess Road (Tuesday-Saturday from 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.)

—Kaetzel Convenience Center, 2926 Kaetzel Road (Tuesday-Saturday from 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.)

—Dargan Convenience Center, 2201 Dargan School Road (Tuesday-Saturday from 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.)

All locations will accept a maximum of two trees per household.

Murphy hangs up stethoscope after career as Hancock vet

by Geoff Fox

After 46 years serving Hancock as the town’s veterinarian, Dan Murphy is hanging up his stethoscope and retiring from practice.

Murphy and his office sent out notices to the homes of his patients alerting their families about his pending retirement a few months ago.

Murphy saw his last patient November 30.

Murphy graduated from Oklahoma State University’s College of Veterinary Medicine in 1977.

Murphy chose OSU as there were no veterinary schools in his home state of West Virginia. Murphy is originally from Keyser.

While waiting for his National Board Exams results to ensure he was qualified, Murphy said he came home for Christmas of 1976 and drove around areas he thought he would want to set up practice.

Murphy began looking in

the Bedford and Winchester areas.

While in Bedford, Murphy met a couple that were vets but they didn’t need any help.

However, one had a connection to Dr. Leo Shives in Hancock. Murphy was told about Shives and how he was a “neat gentleman” who was getting ready to retire and looking for help.

“I knew nothing at all about Hancock, Maryland,” Murphy said. He only knew of the National Road and traveling through when his family would go to places like Gettysburg. He also heard about the town while searching for a motorcycle.

As he was coming down Interstate 70 from Breezewood, Murphy looked over the valley in the Flickerville area and commented on the beauty and how it would be a great place to live and open his practice.

When he made it to Hancock and found Shives,



After 46 years as a veterinarian, Dan Murphy is hanging up his stethoscope and retiring from his veterinary practice. Murphy’s last day seeing patients was November 30.

the vet was in the parking lot castrating a pig.

“That was the first time I laid eyes on him,” Murphy said.

see **MURPHY RETIRES**
page 7

Applications now open for development projects under Sen. Edwards Fund for Western Maryland

The Tri-County Council for Western Maryland has announced that applications are now open for the Senator George C. Edwards Fund for Western Maryland.

The fund, overseen by the 11-member Western Maryland Economic Future Investment Board and administered by the Tri-County Council, will provide loan and grant assistance to Washington, Allegany, and Garrett counties for economic development projects.

During the 2022 legislative session, the Maryland General Assembly allocated \$50 million over four years, with \$20 million available in FY 2023 and \$10 million each in FY 2024, 2025 and 2026.

Funding can be granted or made as loans for capital infrastructure projects or business development projects to “improve the economic conditions in the region.”

More information and the intake process for the fund can be found on the new

website, found here: www.senatedwardsfund.org.

“The Senator George C. Edwards Fund will provide \$50,000,000 over four years for Garrett, Allegany and Washington Counties to use for economic development projects,” said Senator Edwards, the co-sponsor of the legislation that created the fund.

see **EDWARDS FUND**
page 3



The Hancock News

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

— CLOSED —

Thursday, December 22 at 1 p.m. through Sunday, January 1

REGULAR HOURS

Monday, January 2

The Hancock News Will Not Be Printed December 28

The deadline for the January 4, 2023 issue will be noon on Monday, January 2.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year